

WARREN  
MAGAZINE



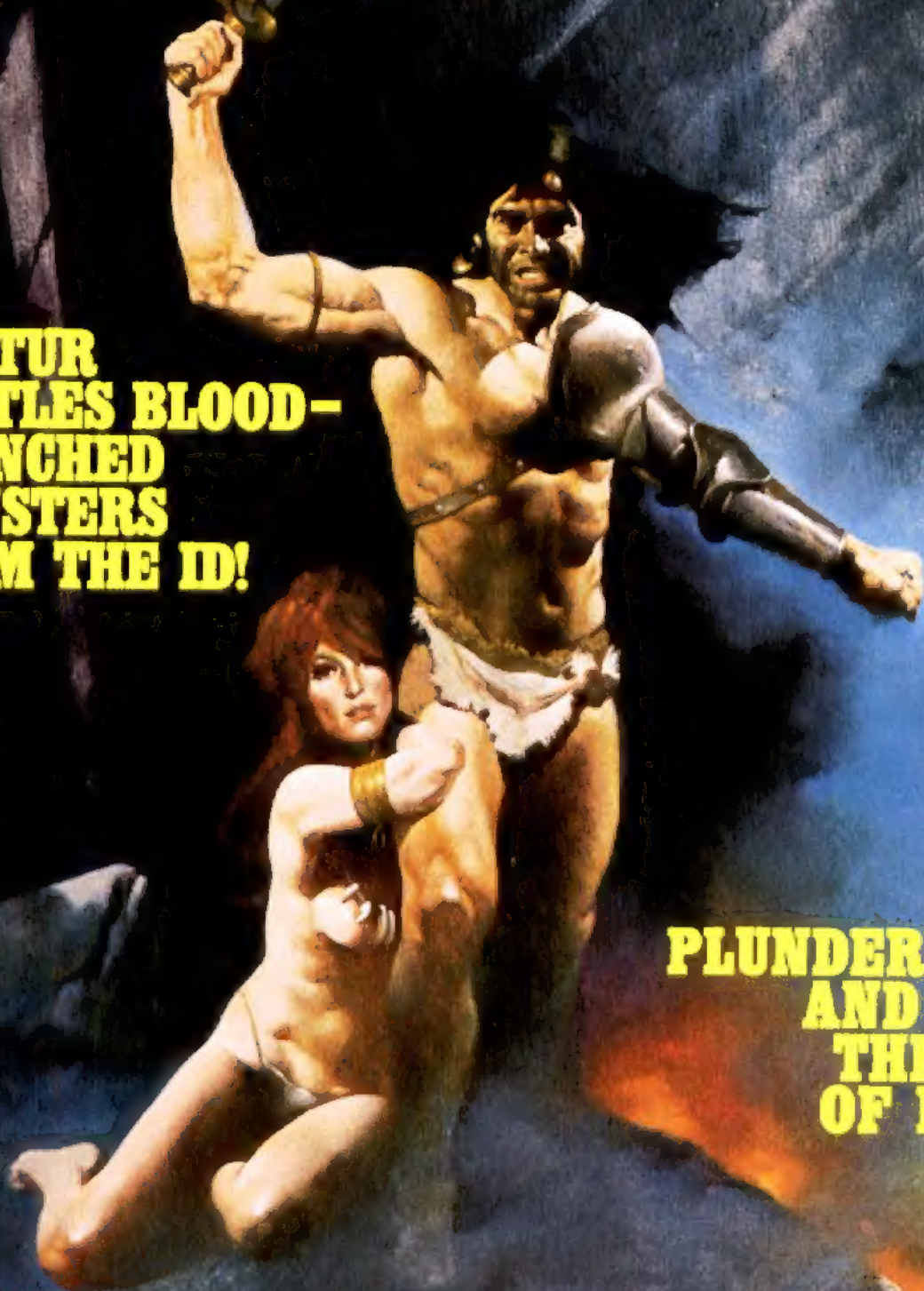
**EERIE**  
#116

NOV. 1980

# EERIE

\$1.75  
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**HAXTUR  
BATTLES BLOOD-  
DRENCHED  
MONSTERS  
FROM THE ID!**



**ALSO:  
PLUNDERWORLD!  
AND CAGIM:  
THE MARK  
OF MERLIN!**





# THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

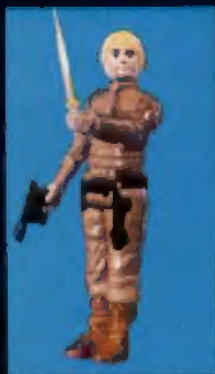
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NEW!  
WARS**

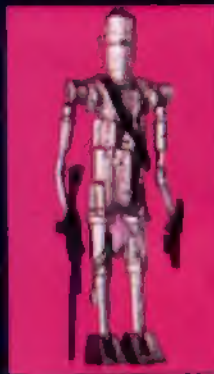
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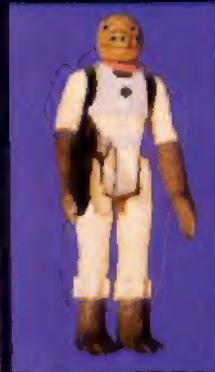
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# EERIE

NUMBER 116

NOVEMBER 1980

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## BLACKJACK

5

Dexter Blackjack found it next to impossible to get Federal science grants in the ghetto. Who would entrust millions to a man who never finished highschool? Unbowed, Blackjack never ceased efforts to win the respect of the scientific establishment. He needed something to prove beyond a shadow of a doubt that he was the greatest scientist alive. That would be a spectacular assault on the impregnable Rook Manor!



## STARWARRIORS

25

The ravaging assault squads of the Plutonian Star Pirates were after ex-Major Lamar Templeton for the murder of one of the Plutonian elders. Templeton had vanished into the star studded universe and the Plutonians were ransacking planet after planet to find him. There was only one place that Templeton could have gone. And that was Aquabase, the legendary training camp of the fearsome Starwarriors!



## CAGIM

37

On a sunday morning in a sleepy London park, a would be magician's life suddenly took a turn for the incredible! It was an explosive event. The kind that is best told to friends and strangers in the flickering shadows of candlelight. This was the foreshadowing of the greatest magician of all time. Born in the far future and living into the distant past, this is the origin of Cagim and the enigmatic mark of Merlin!



## HAXTUR

49

Haxtur remembers little other than the pain of awakening. He knew he was a warrior. And he knew he used to fight wars for money. There was neither morality nor principles, only dollars and death! Then there was only blackness and a slow awakening in this unknown place where life is cheaper than a mercenary's dream. There can be no peace when life is dangerous and a warrior can find no friends in the world!

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# DEAR COUSIN EERIE



**A**lthough **EERIE** is one of the best comics magazines around, I think that there is room for improvement. I thought I would send in my suggestions:

1. First and most important is to see a lot more of such stellar talents as **Paul Gulacy**, **Pablo Marcos**, **Val Mayerik** and **Buzz Vautz**. They are truly the best illustrators working for **Warren Publishing**.

2. Let's see more stories by **Larry Hama**, **Bruce Jones**, **Doug Moench**, **Don McGregor** and **Bill DuBay**. They are without doubt the best writers at work in comics today.

3. Why not extend your letters column to two pages. This will allow even more readers to express their views.

4. It is imperative to see more great covers by such artists as **Ken Kelly**, **Kirk Reinert**, **Terrance Lindall** and **Bob Larkin**. Good covers attract more readers. Don't ever forget that!

I hope we will be seeing more of the team of **Paul Gulacy** and **Doug Moench**. Their "Blood on Black Satin" was one of the most outstanding series ever produced by **EERIE**.

**THE BANDIT**  
Williamsburg, Va.

Hmmm...**EERIE** #113 was certainly a strange issue. The cover by **Jim Laurier** was all right, even if it was a little old hat, but what I found disturbing were the insides.

"The Manifestation" was an unnatural story for **EERIE**. It just didn't seem to belong. Aside from the misplaced feeling of the story, the stargates weren't a believable item. Also, almost everyone was killed off by the end. The sole "survivor" is afloat in space and we aren't even sure if he is dead or alive. If he was alive, then how does he breathe? "The Manifestation" was typical, almost a stereotypical, science fiction story and therefore not suitable for **EERIE**.

"Code Name: Nova" was the least queer of all the stories in the issue. In fact the queerest thing about it was the fact that there was an "end" at the end rather than a "to be continued." It was, after all, a series, right?

I was surprised that **Haxtur** made yet another appearance in **EERIE** #113 with "The Slow Death God." This is one series that would play better in 1994.

The only thing that I really enjoyed in the entire book was the **Jose Ortiz** splash page. I hope this becomes a standard feature of **EERIE**.

**NAPOLÉON ZIVKOVIC**  
Paterson, N.J.

The cover of **EERIE** #114 was one of the best in recent months. **San-Julian** can always be relied upon to turn in superlative work. The cover painting was so good in fact, I almost mistook it for a **Frank Frazetta**!

The stories within, however, were nothing to get excited over. "Star Warrior" had what every other space opera of past issues has had. And that is little or no point to the story when one finally reached the end.

"The Executioners" and "Haxtur" had such simple plots that I could hardly believe that **Warren Publishing** dared to print them in **EERIE**. Further more, I think that the artwork of these two stories is about as bad as I will ever see at **Warren**. I was very disappointed.

**RICK ZIERS**  
Bloomfield, N.J.

One of the things that disturbed me in **EERIE** #113 was the seeming victory of science fiction over the traditional themes that once made **EERIE** so dear to my heart. Gone is the old fashioned horror of yesteryear. Gone is the famous **Warren Publishing** sense of fantasy. Gone are the vampires, mummies and werewolves that we had all come to know and love. The triumph of science fiction seems to be universal, and I suppose that **Warren** is just trying to keep up with the times. I think that that is too bad. With the conquest of **Warren Publishing** by SF, there is now a void in the world of comics.

**JOHN BLACKWELL**  
Boise, Idaho

The controversy between science fiction and the traditional forms of horror that used to be **Warren Publishing's** staple product has been heating up the letters pages of the last few issues.

Those people who take the trouble to write in tend to be either extremely in favor of SF or violently opposed to it. Surely, there must be a middle ground.

Science fiction has become the favorite medium of expression for today's most creative writers. On the otherhand some of the best stories that ever appeared in **EERIE** were done in the horror-fantasy vein. It doesn't seem likely that anyone will be able to combine the two, although efforts have been made.

I have always been a fan of science fiction, but my tastes have always been catholic. So should **EERIE**! I hope the editors of **Warren Publishing** will find a way to strike a balance.

**MONICA VANDERWATER**  
Van Nuys, Calif.

I've said it before, and I'll say it again: I prefer a small number of stories in each issue. And, as I've also said before, a limited number of stories allows for greater and more complex character and plot development. This also cuts out the annoying practice of having a five or six page story drag on for seven or eight installments.

Well, **EERIE** #113 certainly fulfilled the basic part of my desires. There were only three stories in it, and two of them were quite lengthy. Sadly, though, it wasn't a very enjoyable issue because the tales weren't of very high quality.

"The Manifestation" seemed to suffer from its length rather than being helped by it. It was almost as if someone told **Budd Lewis** and **Will Richardson** to fill twenty-five pages regardless of whether the story warranted such space or not (no pun intended!). "The Manifestation" seemed to dart hither and yon about the universe in a frenetic and meaningless manner.

"Code Name: Nova" though, showed somewhat more skill in scripting. Since it was only a first installment, I will have to reserve my judgement until I've read the entire story. But I must say that I wasn't happy with **Alfredo Alcala's** artwork. **Alcala's** clothing designs were out of place in so futuristic a setting. I also felt that the characters' faces were often vague and ill rendered. In addition, I thought that many of the figures were too stiff and had a posed look to them. I will leave it for others to comment on the male to male love scene.

"Haxtur and the Slow Death God" was not the worst story in the book but it certainly wasn't as good as when it originally started in the pages of 1994. The hero seems to have become bogged down in a lot of aimless wandering. The story is beginning to lack substance, although this could be due to the shortness of the segments in which it is being serialized.

I hope that the next **EERIE** will also contain longer stories, but I also hope that their length will be used to advantage in order to produce better stories.

**"T.M. MAPLE"**  
Toronto, Canada

## Dear Cousin Eerie,

c/o Warren Publishing Co.  
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New York, NY 10016



YEEHAAA!

LOOKIT THAT, *USELESS!* I JUS' LOVE IT WHEN THEM GOLDARNED HUMAN BEIN'S *STICK IT T' THOSE* OVER-GROWN, LOW-LIFE LIZARDS!

WHY, THEY'S *PEOPLE* AFTER M' OWN DANG-WAPPIN' HEART!

OH YEAH T WELL I DON'T SUPPOSE YA'D CARE T' PLACE A SMALL FRIENDLY *WAGER* ON THAT, HUH, *TIN MAN*?

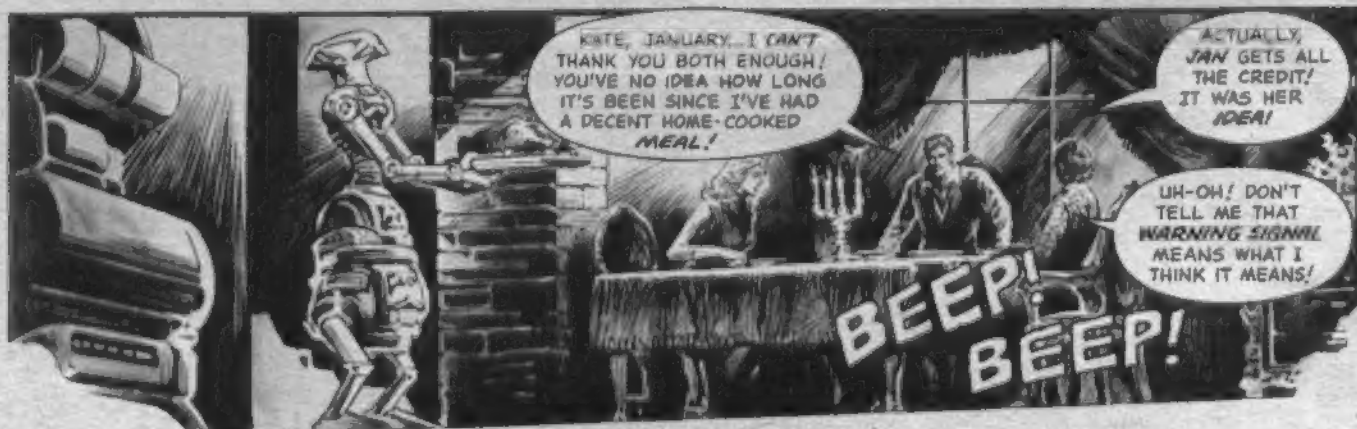
SINCE *SPECIALLY* I GOT ME A *GUT* FEELIN' WHAT SAYS CAVE FOLK AND DINOSAURS *DID* LIVE SIDE-BY-BLOODY-SIDE!

YOU'LL EXCUSE MY SAYING SO, *MASTER BISHOP...* BUT YOU'VE FALLEN *PREY* TO A POPULAR CINEMATIC MISCONCEPTION!

I CAN SOUNDLY ASSURE YOU, SIR, THAT *HUMANS* AND *TYRANNOSAURS* DID NOT MUTUALLY CO-EXIST DURING THE LATE *CRETACEOUS* PERIOD OF THE *MESOZOIC* ERA!

# BLACKJACK

Author: RICH MARGOPOULOS/Illustrator: E.R. CRUZ



KATE, JANUARY... I CAN'T  
THANK YOU BOTH ENOUGH!  
YOU'VE NO IDEA HOW LONG  
IT'S BEEN SINCE I'VE HAD  
A DECENT HOME-COOKED  
MEAL!

ACTUALLY,  
JAN GETS ALL  
THE CREDIT!  
IT WAS HER  
IDEA!

UH-OH! DON'T  
TELL ME THAT  
WARNING SIGNAL  
MEANS WHAT I  
THINK IT MEANS!

BEEP!  
BEEP!



I'M AFRAID SO!  
THERE'S TROUBLE IN  
THE TIME FACTORY! SAVE  
ME THE LEFTOVERS,  
OKAY?



GRANDPA  
AND MANNERS  
SHOULD'VE  
RESPONDED  
TO THAT  
ALARM BY  
NOW!

I DON'T KNOW  
WHERE THEY ARE,  
BUT I'LL WORRY  
ABOUT THEM  
LATER...



AFTER  
I SAVE  
MY TIME  
FACTORY!

VROOOOSH!



THE  
ROOK  
MUST'VE  
GOTTEN  
WORD  
ABOUT THE  
LITTLE  
SURPRISE  
PACKAGE  
I LEFT  
PLANTED  
IN HIS  
PRECIOUS  
SECRET  
GOVERN-  
MENT  
PROJECT!

AND,  
ACCORDING TO  
MY WRISTBAND  
MONITOR-UNIT, A  
TIME CASTLE'S  
ALSO BEEN  
ACTIVATED  
INSIDE ROOK  
MANOR...



...WHICH MEANS  
THERE'S PROBABLY  
NO ONE LEFT BEHIND  
TO MIND THE TECHNOLOGICAL  
STORE... EXCEPT FOR  
THOSE GIRLS AND  
MAYBE A HALF-BAKED  
ROBOT OR TWO!

PITY...!





A SOFT, MELODIC WHINE HERALDS THE EMERGENCE OF BISHOP DANE AND MANNERS IN THE CRETACEOUS PERIOD OF THE MESOZOIC ERA... WHERE THEY PLAN TO SETTLE A CERTAIN **WAGER** BETWEEN THEM!

WELL, **TIN MAN**, WE'RE BACK IN TH' CRE... CREATA-!

THE **CRETA-CEOUS** PERIOD, MASTER BISHOP! TRUE! AND THERE IS NARY A **HOMO SAPIENS** IN SIGHT!

I THEREFORE **REST** MY INSUPERABLE CASE!



SAY! DO YOU FEEL THE GROUND TREMBLING? PERHAPS IT'S A **T-TREMOR** OF SOME UNTOWARD SORT!



EARTHQUAKE, **HELL!** IT'S ONE 'A THEM NO-ACCOUNT FLESH-EATIN' REPTILES **SNEAKIN'** UP ON US REAL UNSUBTLE LIKE!



STAND BACK, USELESS... WILST I **SHOW** THIS TYRAN'-SAUR WHO'S BOSS!

**BAM! BDOOM!**

EAT LEAD, Y'SCALY, SLIME-BELLIED, PEA-BRAINED VARMINT!



CEASE FIRE, MASTER BISHOP! CEASE FIRE!

TH' BLUE-BALLED BEAST'S TRASHED OUR TIME PIECE!



WE...WE'RE FOREVER **MARGOONED** IN THE MESOZOIC AGE!

DON'T WORRY, Y'GEAR CLANKIN' RUSTPOT! I GOT ME A BACK-UP PLAN I'VE BEEN SAVIN' UP FER 'MERGENCIES LIKE THIS!



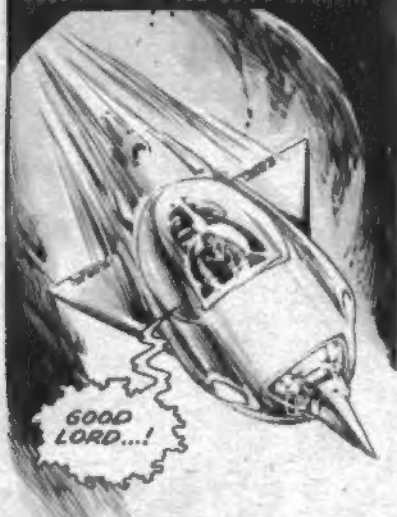
**G-R-R-ROAR!**

WHICH IS, SIR?

RUN, BLAST IT! RUN FER TH' FLAMIN' HILLS!!



THE MAW OF A HIDDEN CAVE FLASHES PAST THE **ROOK** AS HE RAPIDLY DECELERATES TO SUB-SONIC SPEED...



GOOD LORD...!

...ABOUT TO MAKE A COMPUTER-ASSISTED INSTRUMENT LANDING INSIDE A GOVERNMENT RESTRICTED MOUNTAIN!

HAVE TO **BRACE** MYSELF! I-I'M GOING TO **CRASH**...!

TH-THERE'S SOMETHING **HUGE** MOVING ACROSS THE FACTORY RUNWAY!



**SPLUTT**

JUMP FOR IT, MR. DANE! HURRY...

...BEFORE YOUR WHOLE CRAFT IS **ENGULFED** AND **CONSUMED**!



MY GOD! IT'S SOME KIND OF **AMOEBA-LIKE** CREATURE!



HOW'D IT GET IN HERE, SOLDIER?!

IT'S DISSOLVING... **DIGESTING**... MY AERO-CAR RIGHT BEFORE MY EYES!



SECURITY FOUND A STRANGE CANISTER IN THE MAIN GATE!

JUST AS THEY WERE ABOUT TO **INSPECT** IT... IT **BLEW OPEN** AND RELEASED THAT... THAT CREATURE!

BUT THE **BAD NEWS** IS STILL TO COME, SIR! NOTHING WE HAVE SEEMS TO **STOP** IT!

SO I SEE! IT'S **GULPING** DOWN BULLETS LIKE THEY'RE AFTER-DINNER CANDY MINTS!

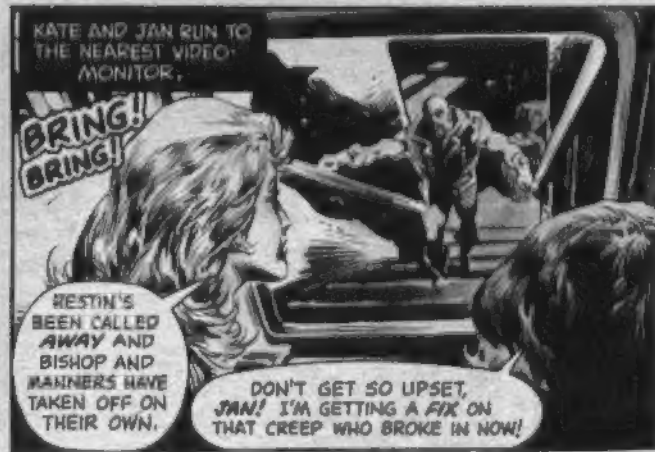


**BANG**

**POW POW**

**KCHOW**

**WHAM!**

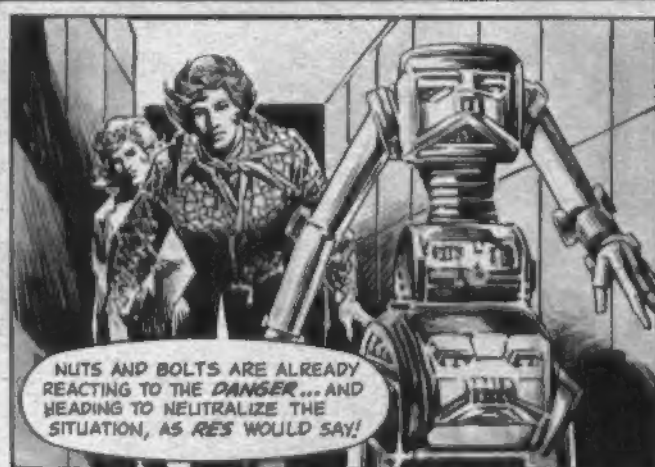


KATE AND JAN RUN TO THE NEAREST VIDEO MONITOR.

BRING! BRING!

WESTIN'S BEEN CALLED AWAY AND BISHOP AND HAINERS HAVE TAKEN OFF ON THEIR OWN.

DON'T GET SO UPSET, JAN! I'M GETTING A FIX ON THAT CREEP WHO BROKE IN NOW!



NUTS AND BOLTS ARE ALREADY REACTING TO THE DANGER... AND BEADING TO NEUTRALIZE THE SITUATION, AS RES WOULD SAY!



AH, LADIES, THERE YOU ARE! MY NAME'S BLACKJACK... TO BE PRECISE, DEXTER LUCIFER BLACKJACK! I WISH I COULD AFFIX THE TITLE "DOCTOR" AS WELL... BUT UNFORTUNATELY, I CAN'T!

KATE, HE'S RAMBLING LIKE A LUNATIC! AND...AND HE'S GOT A GUN!



DON'T BE FRIGHTENED, GIRLS! I'M HERE TO TAKE AN UNINVITED WHIRLWIND NICKLE TOUR OF THE MANOR... AND THEN I PROMISE TO SPLIT PROMPTLY AND PEACEFULLY!

HOWEVER, TO MAKE MY VISIT A SUCCESS, I URGE YOU TO DO YOUR UTMOST TO STOP ME WITH EVERY DEFENSE MECHANISM YOU'VE ACCESS TO!



WE'LL STOP YOU SO FAST, SUCKER, IT'LL MAKE YOUR HEAD SPIN!

NUTS! BOLTS! GET HIM...

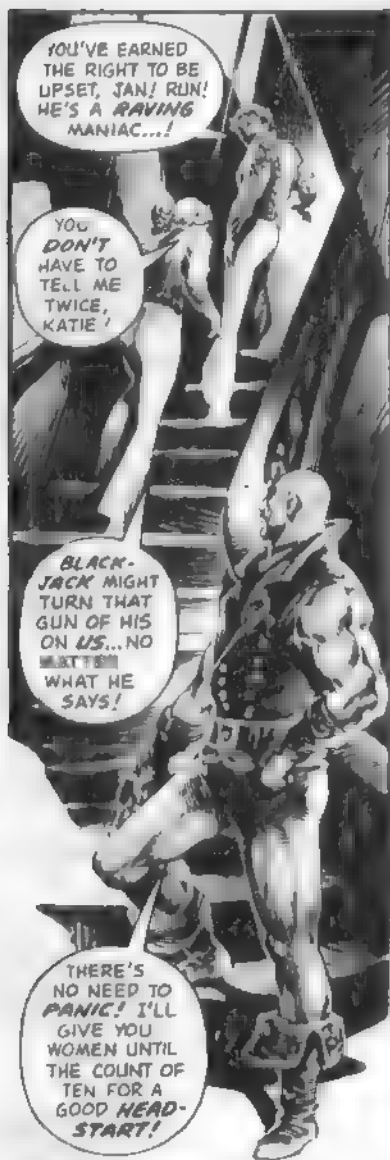


THANKS FOR BEING SO CO-OPERATIVE!

I HAVE A BEAM THAT COMBINES HYDROGEN AND OXYGEN FROM THE ATMOSPHERE... DRENCHING WHATEVER IT STRIKES WITH A DELUGE OF WATER!

HE'S SHORTING OUT NUTS AND BOLTS!





YOU'VE EARNED THE RIGHT TO BE UPSET, JAN! RUN! HE'S A RAVING MANIAC....!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME TWICE, KATIE!

BLACK-JACK MIGHT TURN THAT GUN OF HIS ON US... NO MATTER WHAT HE SAYS!

THERE'S NO NEED TO PANIC! I'LL GIVE YOU WOMEN UNTIL THE COUNT OF TEN FOR A GOOD HEAD-START!



BA-WHAM!

THIS WHOLE UPPER AREA IS USED FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT! DROP THE BLAST DOOR.. IT'LL GIVE US TIME TO THINK!

RIGHT...!



I'VE GOT IT! HELP ME ACTIVATE RESTIN'S AUTOMATIC ROBOT ASSEMBLER!

IT'S ONLY CALIBRATED FOR SIMPLE DRONE ROBOTS... BUT THAT SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO KEEP HIM BUSY...

IF NOT OUT-RIGHT OVERWHELM THAT GUN-TOTING CLOWN!



AFTER SOME THIRTY SECONDS ELAPSE...!

HAH! MY THERMAL RAY REALLY MADE SHORT WORK OF THIS MOLYBDENUM-TITANIUM BARRIER AND -!

WHAT--?!



AN ARMY OF IDIOT ROBOTS MINDLESSLY MARCHING AT ME! I'LL BE CRUSHED IN ITS TRACKS!

BLACKJACK HURRIEDLY SLAMS HIS PISTOL'S TERMINAL JACK INTO ANOTHER OF HIS MANY VEST CUP PUT SOCKETS...



I'LL FREEZE THESE TIN SOLDIERS SOLID... INCLUDING THE DEVICE THAT'S SPITTING THEM OUT!

GOOD THING I'VE GOT A UNI-JACK FOR ANY AND EVERY PURPOSE!

...AND HALTS THE MECHANICAL ADVANCE COLO IN ITS TRACKS!

MANY  
IN EARTH'S  
HIST.  
BISHOP  
EMPLOYS  
THE ART  
OF ESCAPE  
AND  
EVASION!

BEAT IT,  
Y' CHROME-  
FACED  
IDJIT! GO  
FIND YER  
OWN TREE  
T' HIDE  
IN!

Y'DON'T  
HAVE T'  
WORRY  
'BOUT  
GITTIN'  
EAT'N  
ALIVE...  
BUT I  
DO!

I BEG TO DIFFER, SIR! I  
CANNOT RETREAT RAPIDLY  
ENOUGH DUE TO MY APPEN-  
DAGE TREADS GETTING  
ENTANGLED IN THE  
TALL GRASS...

... AND I HAVE  
NO FERVENT  
DESIRE TO BE  
TRAMPLED  
BY A MULTI-  
TON CARNI-  
VORE AS WAS  
OUR ERST-  
WHILE TIME  
CASTLE!

SHADDUP, Y' WHIMPERIN'  
BOOGER-HEADED SLOUNGER!  
HERE COMES THAT DEFALCATIN'  
DINOSAUR! HE HEARD YER  
MIS'RABLE BELLYACHIN'!

WE GOTTA CLIMB  
HIGHER...OR WE'RE  
DEAD MEAT!

YROWR!

T-TIN MAN!  
NOW LOOK  
WHAT YA'VE  
DONE! YER  
WEIGHT'S  
BENDIN' TH'  
TREE CLEAR  
OVER!

I AM HARDLY AT FAULT, SIR!  
MY SURVIVAL PROGRAMING  
IMPELLED ME TO FOLLOW YOU!

JUMP  
FER IT,  
Y' WAMPUS,  
RUST-  
BELLIED  
JUNKSTER.

TWAK!

GRAA

OR THAT DANGFURLED, CURSED  
CRITTER'S GONE' BE ALL OVER US  
FASTER'N A FAGGOT IN A MEN'S  
LOCKER ROOM!

EXCELLENT STRATEGY, MASTER  
BISHOP! THE RECOIL ~~ANNOYED~~  
THE TYRANNOSAURUS REX  
SENSELESS!

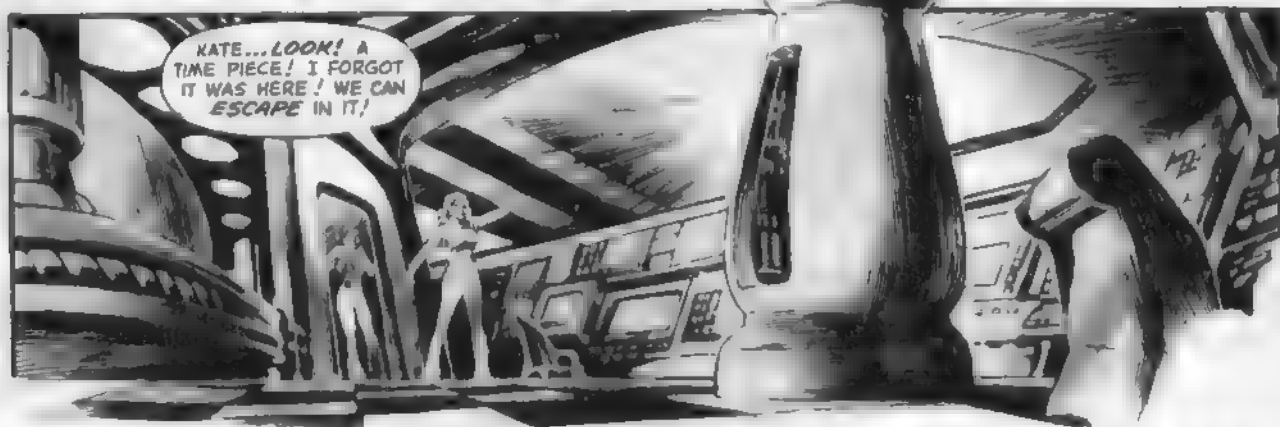
ER, YEAH... RIGHT!  
NOW LET'S GO BACK T'OUR  
TROMPED-ON TIME 'CHINE  
AN' SEE IF'N WE CAN'T RE-  
PAIR TH' DAMAGE AN' GIT  
TH' HELL OUTTA HERE!

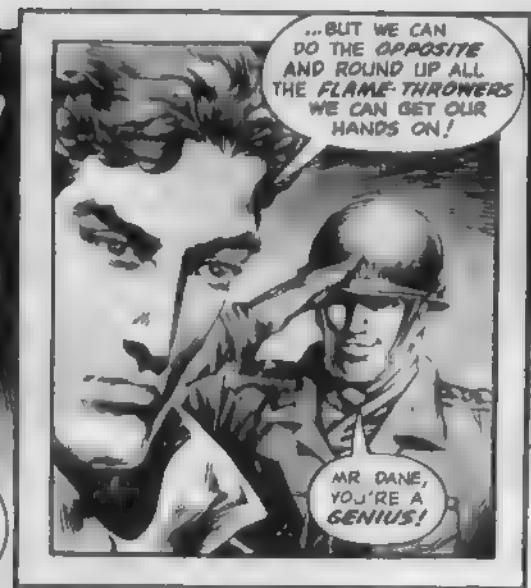
















BACK IN THE MESOZOIC ERA, TWO BEDRAGGLED FIGURES TRUDGE ACROSS AN ALIEN TROPICAL LANDSCAPE...

FOLLOW ME, LUBE-BREATH! MY KEEN SENSE 'A DIRECTION TELLS ME OUR CASTLE'S JUST YONDER THESE HERE FERNS!

BUT SIR, YOU'VE BEEN SAYIN' THAT FOR THE LAST HOUR WHILE WE'VE ~~WANDERED~~ ~~WANDERED~~ AROUND IN CIRCLES... HOPELESSLY LOST!



LOST? SHEEE--! I'M MOVIN' IN SLOW T'MAKE SURE THERE AIN'T ANYMORE 'A THEM PESKY DINOSAURS 'ROUND HERE AND...

GAAAAA!



I'M... I'M OUTTA AMMO, TIN MAN! WE'RE DOOMED

THERE'S NO NEED TO GET WORKED UP, MASTER BISHOP! THE HEAD OF THIS LUMBERING STEGOSAURUS IS EASILY WITHIN STRIKING RANGE OF MY MAILED FIST!



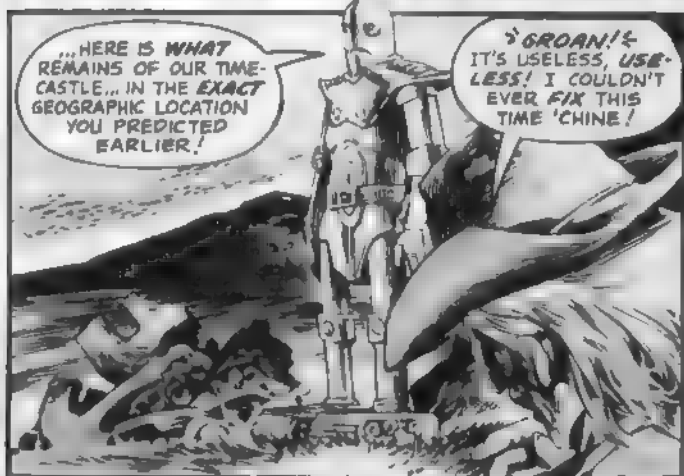
I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT ONE BLOW WILL, WITHOUT DOUBT, STUN ITS DIMINUTIVE WALNUT-SIZED BRAIN!



WELL, I'LL BE JIGGERED! YA WHIPPED 'IM FAIR AN' SQUARE!

REMIND ME T' NEVER CHALLENGE YA T'A GAME 'A ARM WRASTLIN'!

NEVER MIND THAT, SIR...



...HERE IS WHAT REMAINS OF OUR TIME-CASTLE... IN THE EXACT GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION YOU PREDICTED EARLIER!

GROAN! IT'S USELESS, USELESS! I COULDN'T EVER FIX THIS TIME 'CHINE!



AT LONG LAST I HAVE FOUND YOU BOTH!

M-MY W-WORD...!

HEY! A HUMAN VOICE! THERE'S PEOPLE LIVIN' IN THE PAST! I WIN TH' BET, TIN MAN! I-- ULP!





POWERING OVER BISHOP AND MANNERS, A STRANGE SEVEN-FOOT GIANT TRAINS AN UNUSUAL WEAPON IN THEIR DIRECTION!

YOU ARE UNDER ARREST! KINDLY ACCOMPANY ME TO MY SKY-SKIMMER!

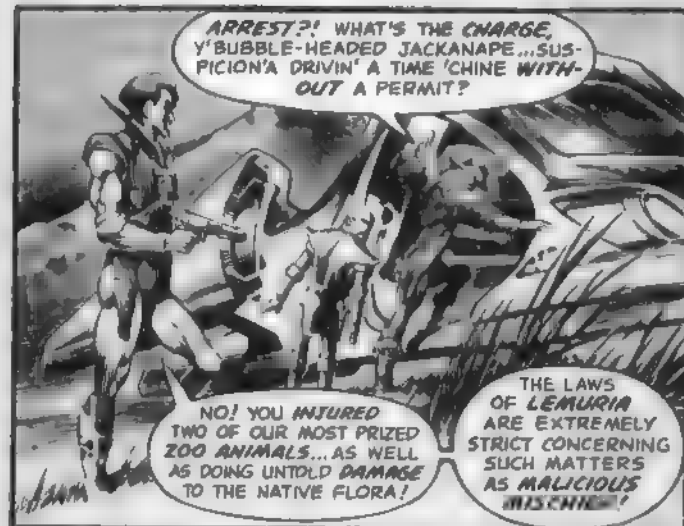
RESISTANCE IS FUTILE! DO NOT FORCE ME TO TERMINATE YOU!



ARREST?! WHAT'S THE CHARGE, Y' BUBBLE-HEADED JACKANAPE... SUSPICION'A DRIVIN' A TIME 'CHINE WITHOUT A PERMIT?

NO! YOU INJURED TWO OF OUR MOST PRIZED ZOO ANIMALS... AS WELL AS DOING UNTOLD DAMAGE TO THE NATIVE FLORA!

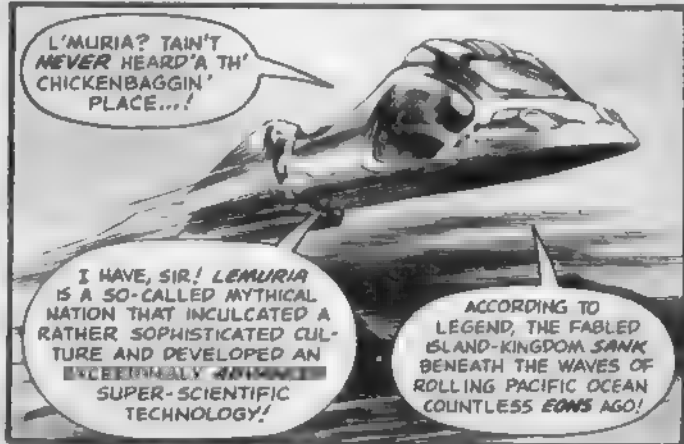
THE LAWS OF LEMURIA ARE EXTREMELY STRICT CONCERNING SUCH MATTERS AS MALICIOUS MISCHIEF!



L'MURIA? TAIN'T NEVER HEARD'A TH' CHICKENBAGGIN' PLACE...!

I HAVE, SIR! LEMURIA IS A SO-CALLED MYTHICAL NATION THAT INCULCATED A RATHER SOPHISTICATED CULTURE AND DEVELOPED AN EXCEPTUALLY ADVANCED SUPER-SCIENTIFIC TECHNOLOGY!

ACCORDING TO LEGEND, THE FABLED ISLAND-KINGDOM SANK BENEATH THE WAVES OF ROLLING PACIFIC OCEAN COUNTLESS EONS AGO!



WHAT'CHA TRYIN' T' TELL ME, Y'RATTLE-BRAINED DULLARD.. THAT TH' FAIR STATE'A ARIZONA AIN'T NUTHIN' MORE'N A DINOSAUR PARK FER THEM L'MURIANS?!

IN ESSENCE, SIR... YES!



WELL, I PLAIN DON'T BELIEVE IT!

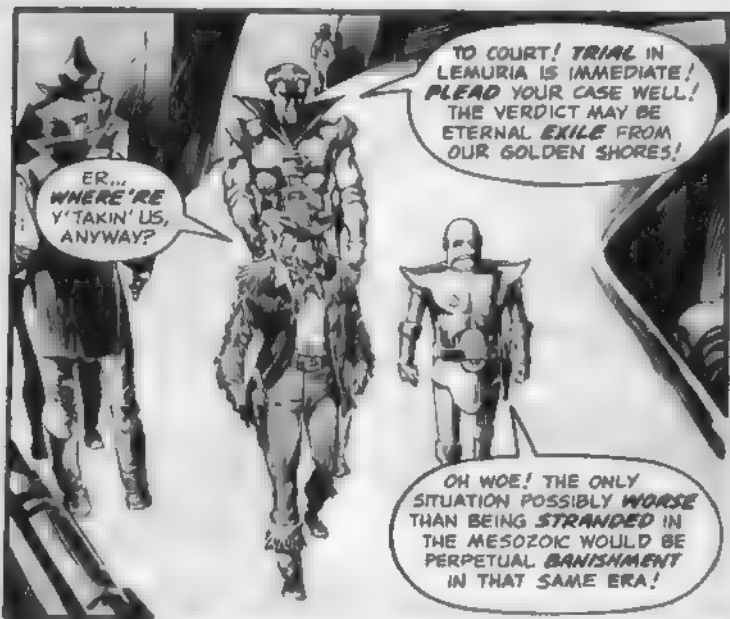
WHAT YOU CHOOSE TO BELIEVE IS IRRELEVANT! GET OUT! WE HAVE ARRIVED!



ER... WHERE'RE Y'TAKIN' US, ANYWAY?

TO COURT! TRIAL IN LEMURIA IS IMMEDIATE! PLEAD YOUR CASE WELL! THE VERDICT MAY BE ETERNAL EXILE FROM OUR GOLDEN SHORES!

OH WOE! THE ONLY SITUATION POSSIBLY WORSE THAN BEING STRANDED IN THE MESOZOIC WOULD BE PERPETUAL BANISHMENT IN THAT SAME ERA!



IN THE PRESENT, BLACKJACK CAREFULLY SCRUTINIZES THE CHARRED REMAINS OF THE SMOLDERING TIME CASTLE!

DAMN--! THE CASTLE'S EMPTY! THE CHICKS MUST'VE SET IT ON AUTOMATIC TO NAIL ME BY REMOTE CONTROL!

I CAME HERE TO PIT MY WITS AGAINST DANE'S DEVICES... NOT TO GET CREAMED BY A TIME JUMPING BOOBY TRAP!

THOSE BITCHES WANT TO PLAY ROUGH... FINE! JUST WAIT TILL I GET MY SIGHTS ON THEM!

IF HE SEARCHES BEHIND THIS HEAVY EQUIPMENT, HE'S SURE TO FIND US!

THERE'S ONE LAST ROOM WE CAN HIDE IN, JAN... THE HANGAR BAY! WE'LL MAKE OUR LAST STAND THERE!

DROP THE CRASH DOOR! I KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT THE WHIZZER'S CONTROLS TO FLY US OUT OF HERE!

OF COURSE, LANDING IN ONE PIECE IS GOING TO BE TRICKY... BUT YOU CAN'T EXPECT MIRACLES!

KATE... I CAN'T GO WITH YOU!

WHAT...?!

WE CAN'T JUST TAKE OFF AND LEAVE ALL OF ROCK MANOR IN THE HANDS OF THAT LUNATIC!

TH-THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT HE MIGHT DO... OR HOW MANY LIVES COULD END UP BEING LOST!

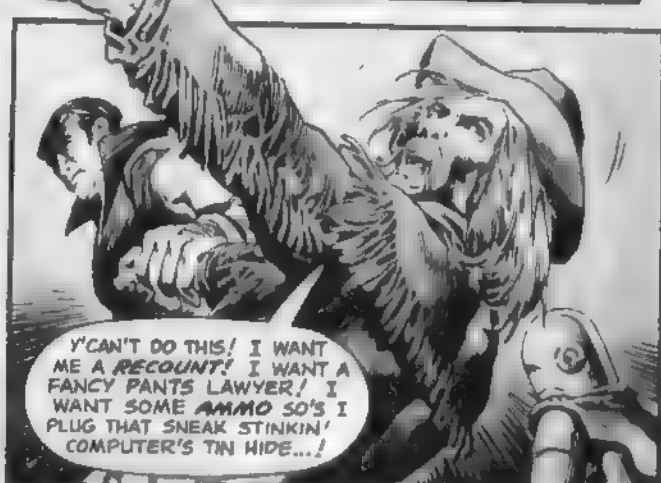
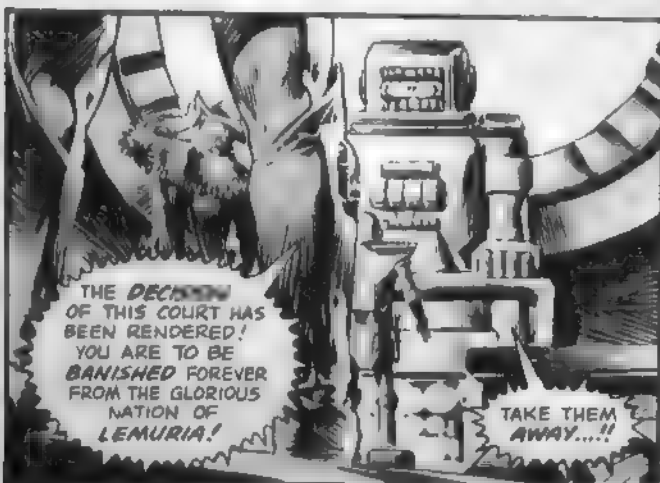
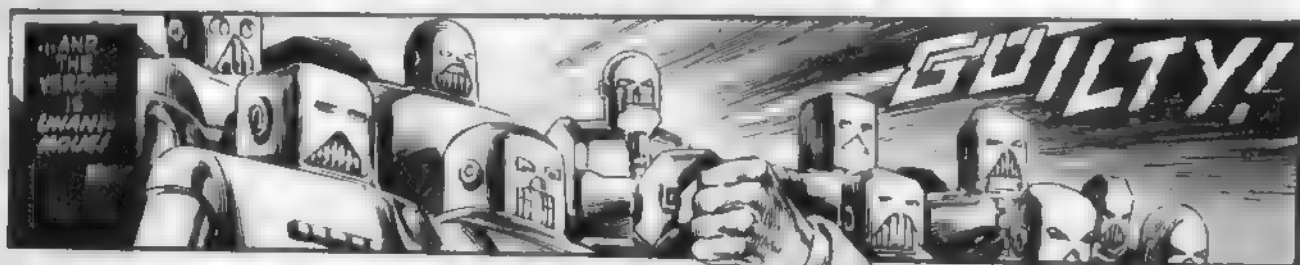
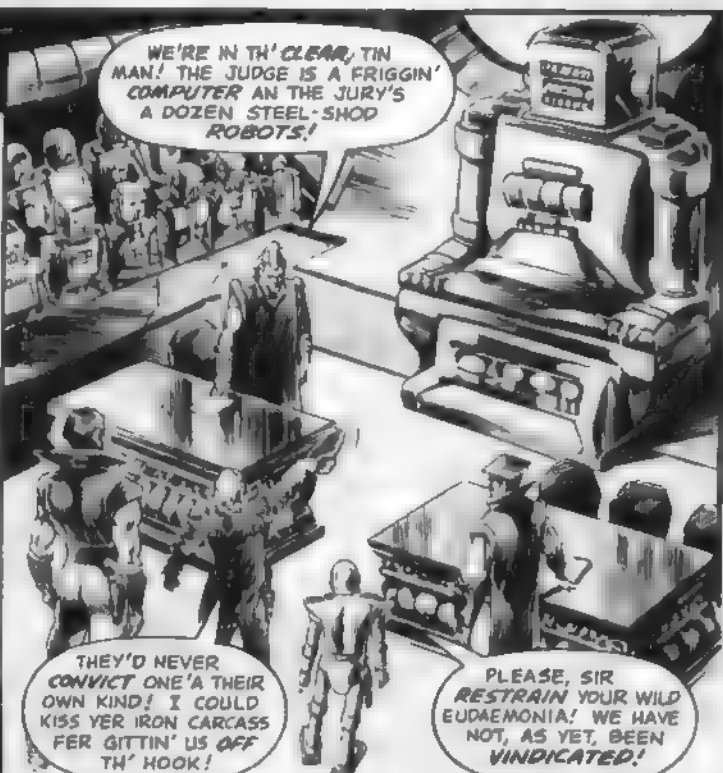
IT'S MY DUTY TO RESTIN... MAYBE EVEN THE WORLD... TO REMAIN BEHIND AND STOP BLACKJACK... NO MATTER WHAT THE COST!

AND I SAY IT'S YOUR DUTY TO GET THE HELL AWAY AND WARN RES... RATHER THAN STAY HERE ALONE WITH BLACKJACK!

BUT IT'S YOUR DECISION, JAN! ALL I CAN PROMISE IS THAT I'LL BRING HELP BACK AS FAST AS POSSIBLE!

THAT'S ALL I CAN ASK! THANKS, KATE!





BLACKJACK MELTS HIS WAY INTO THE HANGAR  
BUT ONLY TO CHOMP ON THE WHIZZER'S HOT  
EXHAUST AS IT STREAKS AWAY!



DAMN IT  
TO HELL!  
THEY'RE  
GETTING  
AWAY IN  
THAT  
STRANGE  
ROCKET-  
CRAFT!

BUT I'VE  
A BEAM UP MY  
SLEEVE THAT'LL  
BLAST IT TO  
ATOMS!



TOO LATE...  
IT'S ALREADY  
WELL OUT OF  
RANGE!

PLEASE GOD...  
KEEP HIM DISTRACTED  
LONG ENOUGH FOR ME  
TO USE THESE  
WIRE CUTTERS!



WHAT AM I  
DOING? JAN'S  
MY BEST  
FRIEND

I'D NEVER BE  
ABLE TO LIVE WITH  
MYSELF IF ANYTHING  
HAPPENED TO HER!



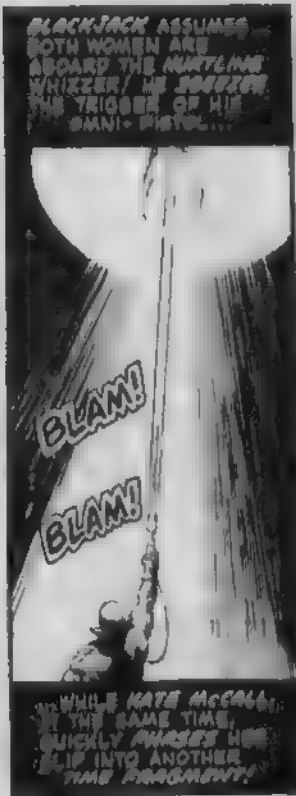
THE LEAST I CAN DO IS CREATE  
ONE WHOPPING DIVERSION... AND PRAY  
JAN'S PLOY SOMEHOW WORKS!

**ZZZOOM!**



HUP? THE  
SHIP'S TURNING  
AROUND... COMING  
RIGHT BACK AT ME  
IN A KAMIKAZE  
DIVE!

THOSE SOWS DON'T  
KNOW IT... BUT THEY'RE  
ABOUT TO BITE THE BIG  
ONE! AND I DO MEAN  
BIG...!



BLACKJACK ASSUMES  
BOTH WOMEN ARE  
ABOARD THE NUTTING  
WHIZZER! HE SPOTTED  
THE TRIGGER OF HIS  
OMNI-PISTOL...

**BLAM!**  
**BLAM!**

WHILE KATE MCCALL  
AT THE SAME TIME,  
QUICKLY PASSES HER  
SLIP INTO ANOTHER  
TIME FRAGMENT!



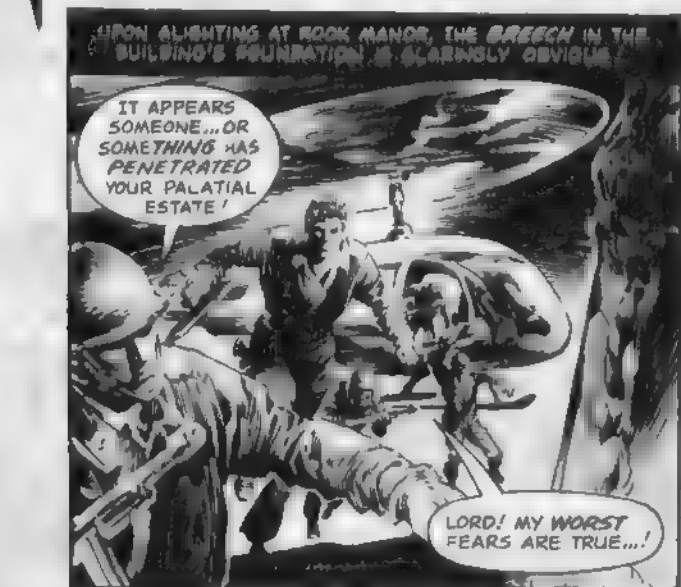
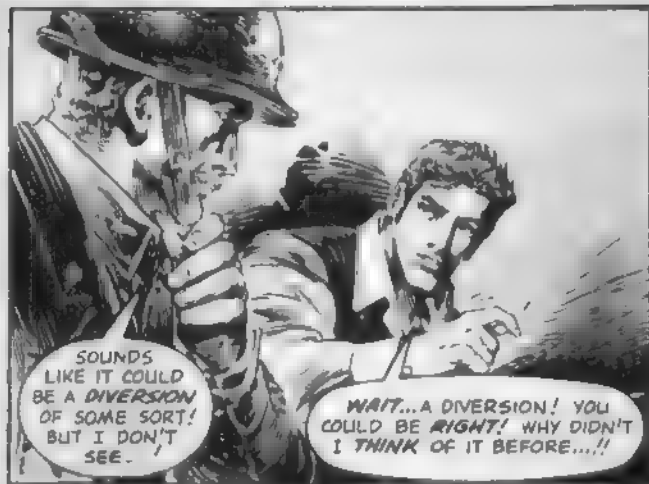
THE GUN'S BLINDING RAY PASSES HARMLESSLY  
THROUGH THE VEHICLE'S RAPIDLY FORMING FORM!

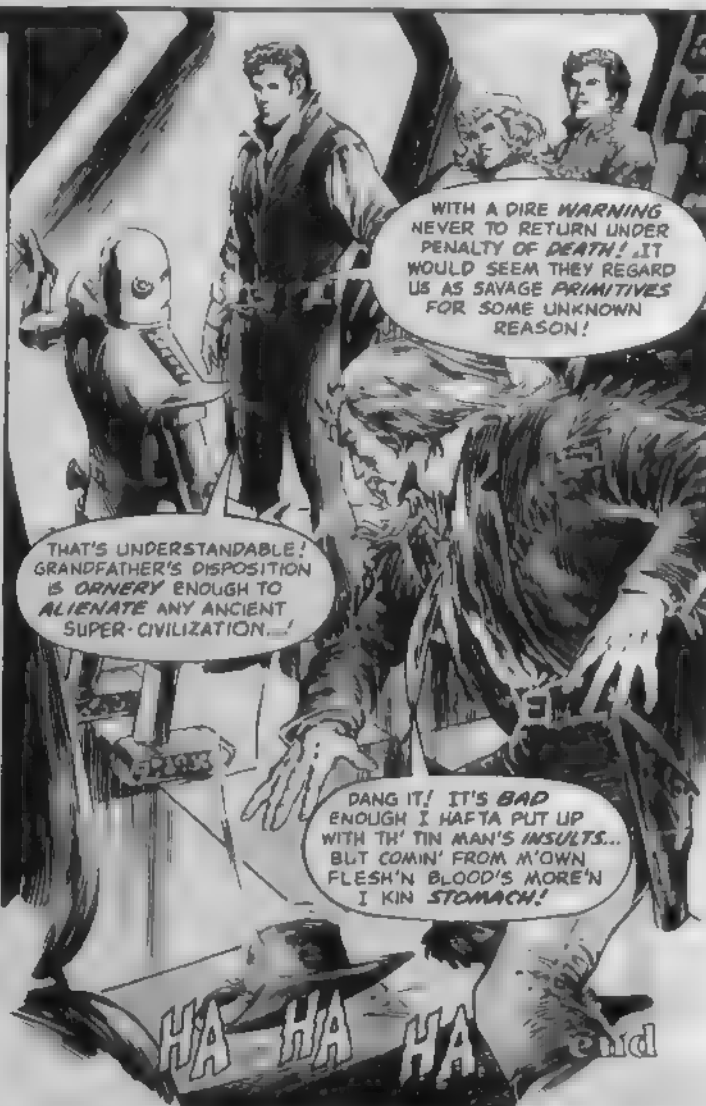
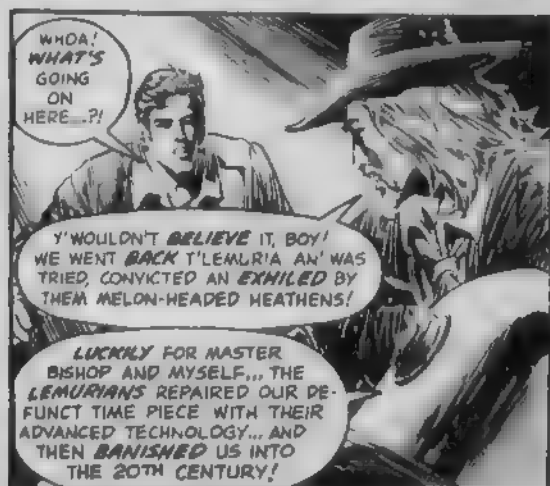
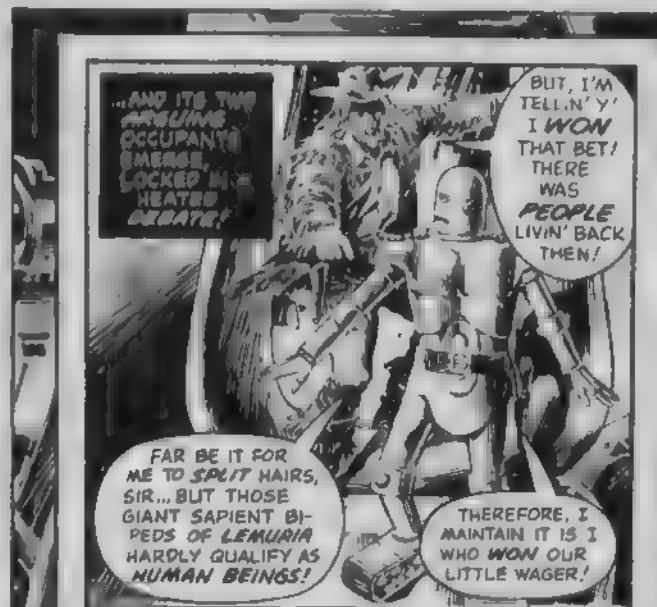
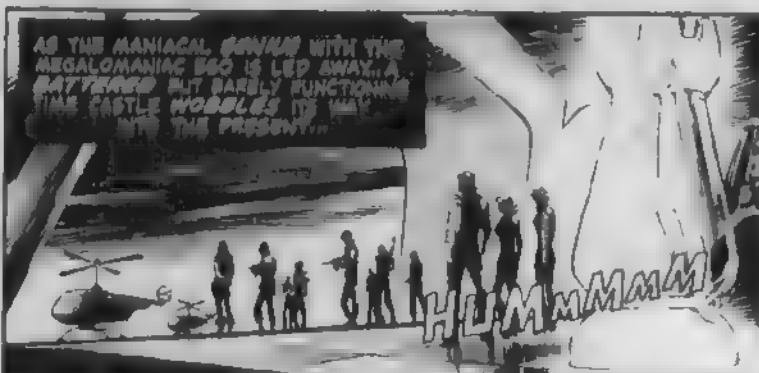
AS JANUARY  
BOONE LEAPS  
FROM THE  
SHADOWS WITH  
A MAJOR  
WOW CUTTING  
EDGE!

NO-O-O-O-O!!



DEEP WITHIN THE DARK BOWELS OF THE TIME FACTORY THE ROOK SUPERVISES THE FINAL ERADICATION OF THE SLIME-DRIPPING AMOEBA!







# STAR PLUNDERWORLD WARRIORS



AND NOW... IT'S  
TOO LATE!



AARRO VENGER IS INDEPENDENTLY WEALTHY AND YOUNG. HE'S USED HIS MIST FORTUNE TO RECONSTRUCT THE SPRAWLING AQUABASE... A SUB-OCEANIC PORTRESS OF IMMEASURABLE AGE.

THIS SEA-BOTTOM FORT SERVES AS THE TRAINING CAMP FOR THE STARWARRIORS... BOLD AND DARING BEINGS IN THEIR PHYSICAL PRIME RECRUITED FROM A DOZEN DIFFERENT WORLDS, POSSESSING THE SHARPEST MINDS AND SKILLS!



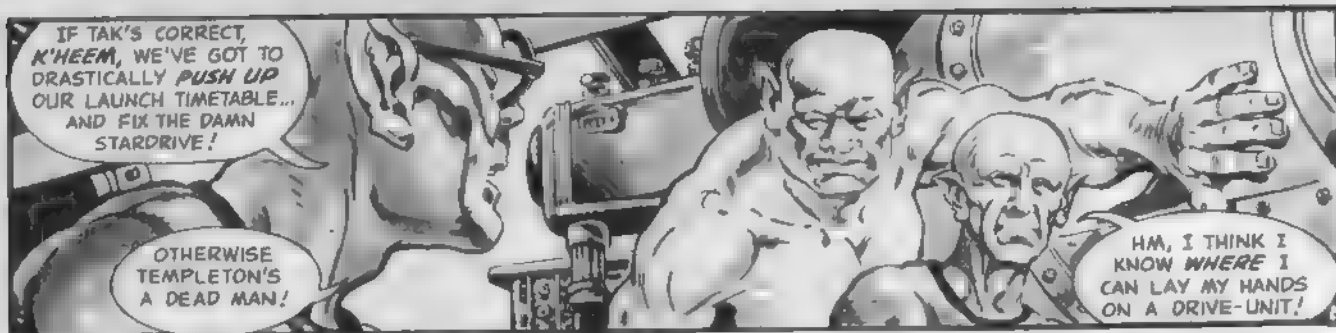
FOR WEEKS NOW, THE STARWARRIORS HAVE KNOWN THE PLUTONIAN STAR PIRATES WERE BANKROCKETING PLANET AFTER PLANET IN PURSUIT OF EX-MAJOR LAMAR TEMPLETON!\*

THE PLUTONIANS WERE OUT TO AVENGE THE MURDER OF ONE OF THEIR ALDERS. THEY KNEW TEMPLETON WAS THE MURDERER, AND THAT TEMPLETON WAS A GRADUATE OF THE STARWARRIOR TRAINING CAMP.

COULD TEMPLETON BE HIDING AT AQUABASE? THE PLUTONIANS WOULD FIND OUT.

VENGER KNOWS ONLY ONE WEAPON CAN HALT THE SAVAGE RETRIBUTION OF THE STAR RAIDING PLUTONIANS WHEN THEY SETTLE BLOOD DEBTS. BUT IT CAN ONLY BE OBTAINED FROM A BANKRUPT INDUSTRIAL WORLD... LEGENDARY TERRA!

\*SEE EERIE #114.



IF TAK'S CORRECT, K'HEEM, WE'VE GOT TO DRASTICALLY PUSH UP OUR LAUNCH TIMETABLE... AND FIX THE DAMN STARDRIVE!

OTHERWISE TEMPLETON'S A DEAD MAN!

HM, I THINK I KNOW WHERE I CAN LAY MY HANDS ON A DRIVE-UNIT!



GOOMBA, OLD FRIEND, COME WITH ME! I CAN PUT YOUR HEAVY WORLD STRENGTH TO GOOD USE...

AS WELL AS YOUR UNPARALLELED FLYING SKILLS!



UH, K'HEEM, WITH THE PLUTES ATTACKING... WHO'S, UH, GOING TO SELL US A WARP ENGINE?

THAT'S IT, FRIEND! WITH THE RAIDERS HERE... NO ONE WILL MIND IF WE BORROW ONE!



THEY'RE, UH, HERE ALL RIGHT!

LOOK!



MY GOD! THEY'RE SOFTENING UP THE PLANET FOR A GROUND ASSAULT!

UH, WE'D BETTER MOVE QUICKLY, THEN!

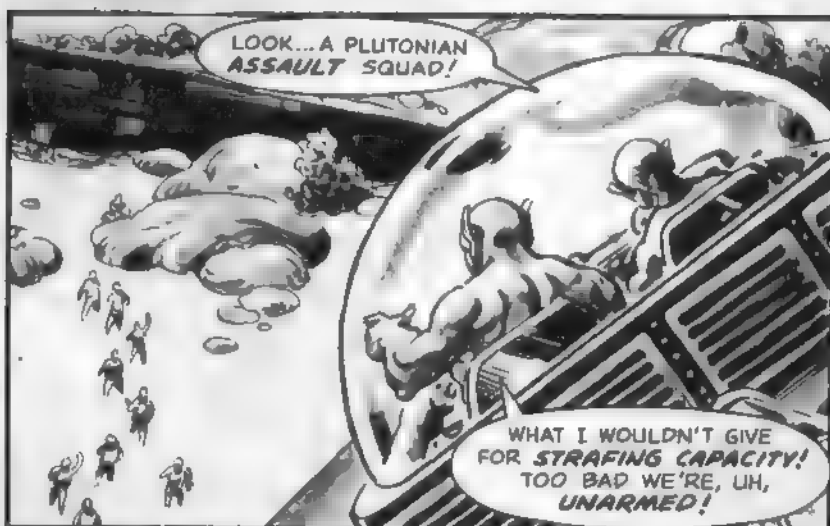
EVERYONE MUST BE IN UNDERGROUND SHELTERS BY NOW!

RIGHT! THIS SPACESHIP PARTS WAREHOUSE LOOKS DESERTED! LET'S JUST HOPE THEY'VE GOT IN STOCK WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR!



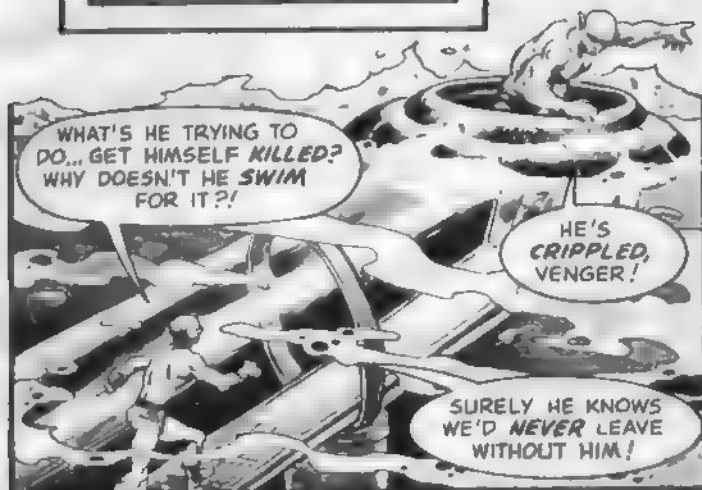
WE'RE IN LUCK! THIS IS IT! VENGER WILL BE ELATED!

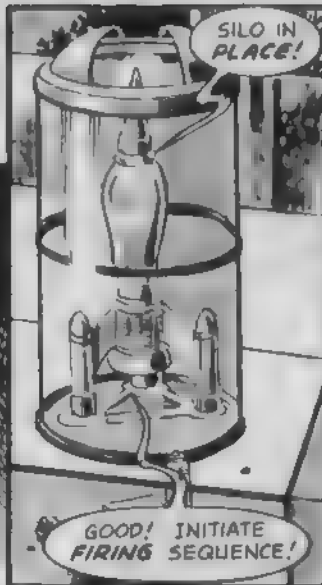
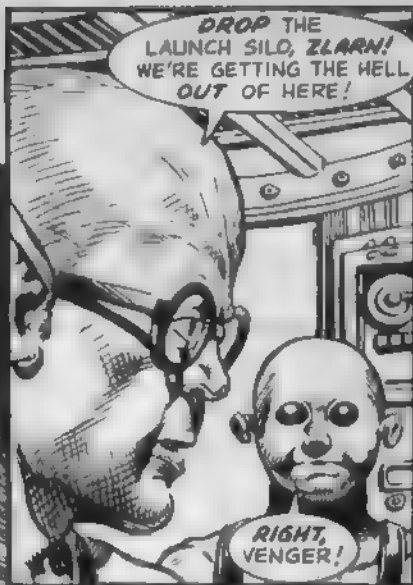
PROVIDING WE, UH, LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO GET IT BACK!



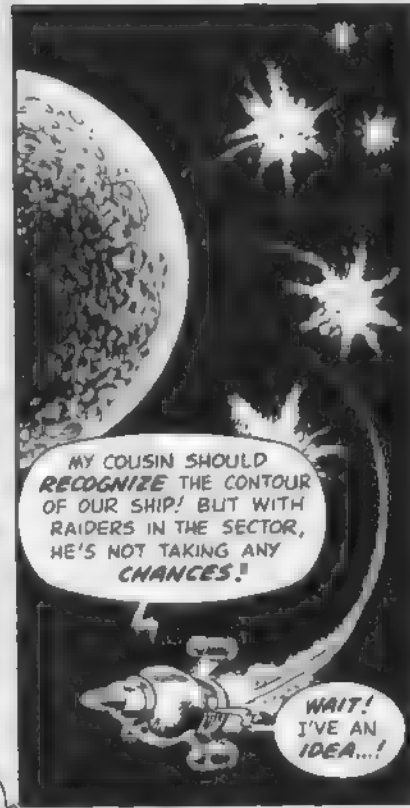














THANKS FOR THE FUEL AND ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES, YOSS! NOW WE STAND HALF A CHANCE AGAINST THE PLUTONIANS!

TAKE ALL YOU NEED, COUSIN! YOUR CREDIT'S GOOD WITH ME!



NEXT STOP... OLD TERRA!

PTHOOOM!



WELL, SWEETCAKES, THE PLUTONIANS THINK TEMPLETON HAD KILLED ONE OF THEIR ELDERS! BUT IN REALITY THE ELDER WAS A PROFESSIONAL ASSASSIN WHO HAD KILLED TEMPLETON'S GIRLFRIEND!

SOMEBODY, UH, INTERRUPT THOSE LOVE-BIRDS AND TELL VENGER HE'S UH, WANTED UP FRONT!

AND THE ELDER WASN'T EVEN A REAL PLUTONIAN! SO YOU SEE, WE HAVE TO LET THE PLUTONIANS CHASE US BECAUSE IT WILL GIVE LAMAR A CHANCE TO COVER HIS TRACKS!



WELL, I'LL BE--! IT... IT'S EARTH!

THE LEGENDS ARE TRUE! IT REALLY DOES EXIST!



"SEE TERRA AND DIE!" THAT OLD SAYING'S RIGHT! I'D DIE OF BOREDOM AROUND THIS VACANT DUMP!

SAVE THE WISERACKS, UREENA! THIS IS SERIOUS!

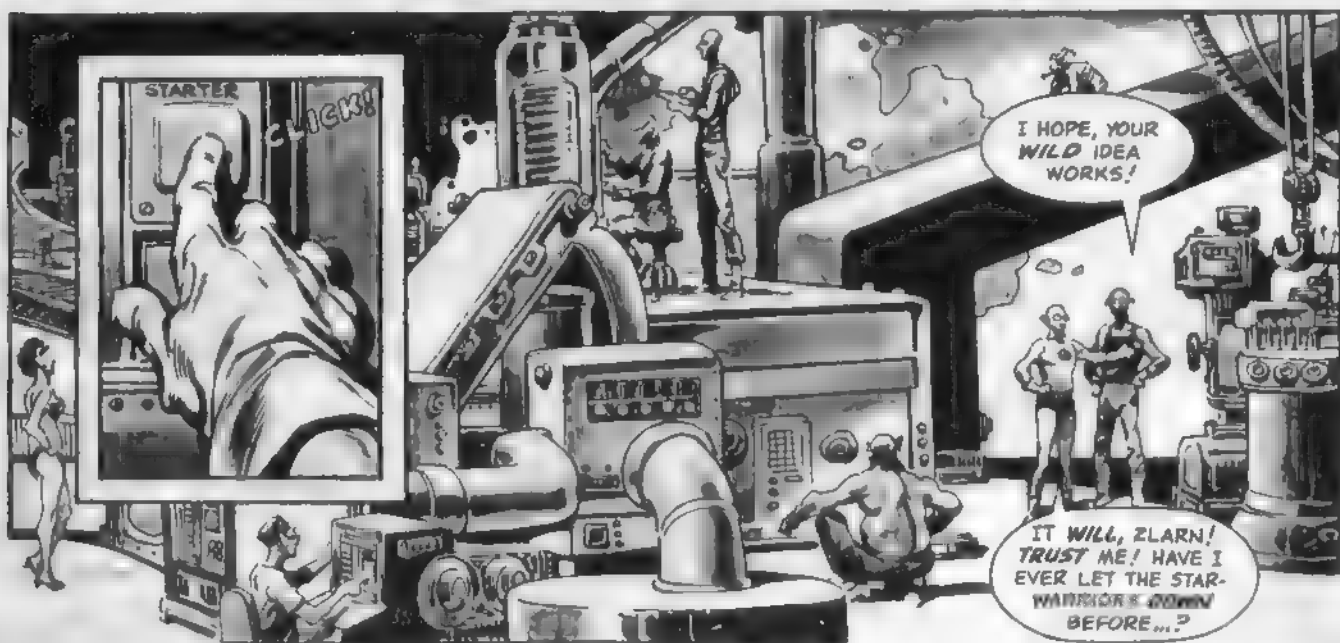
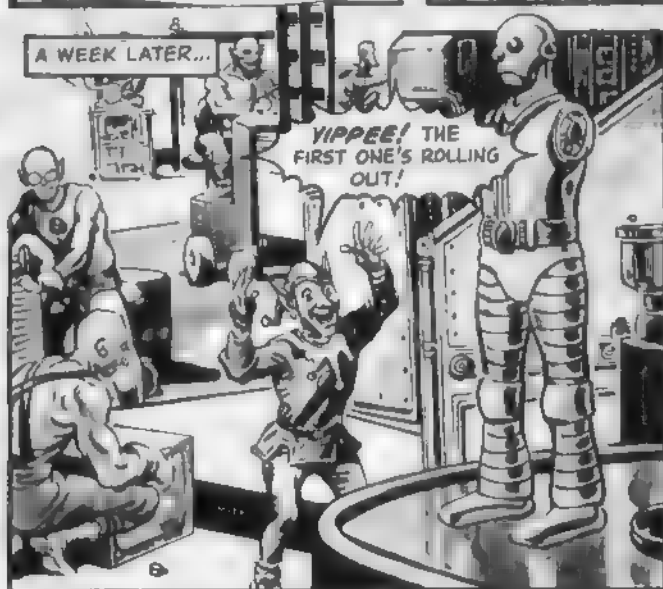
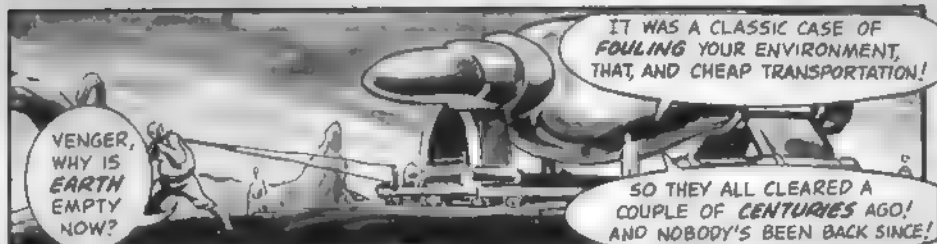
RIKKI! YOU AND GOLITELY SURVEY THE AREA BY TURBOCRAFT AND REPORT BACK TO ME!

BESIDES, UREENA, THE PLUTONIANS WOULD NEVER THINK TO LOOK FOR US ON A MYTH!

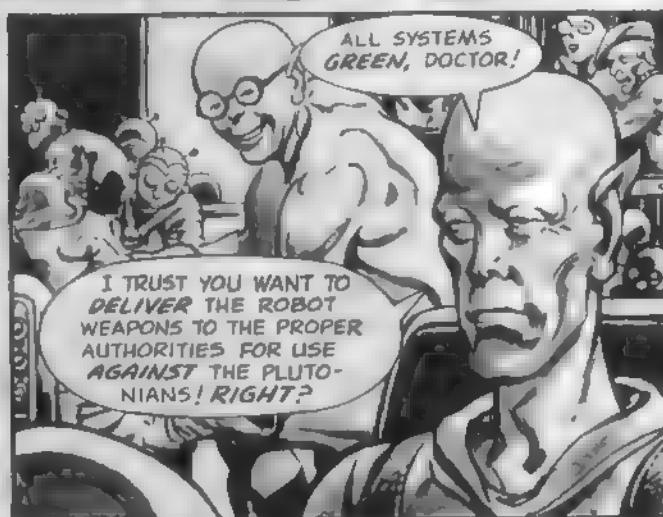
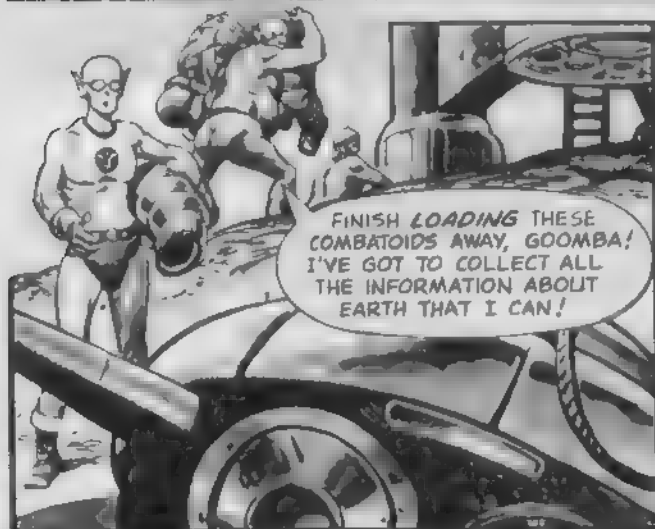
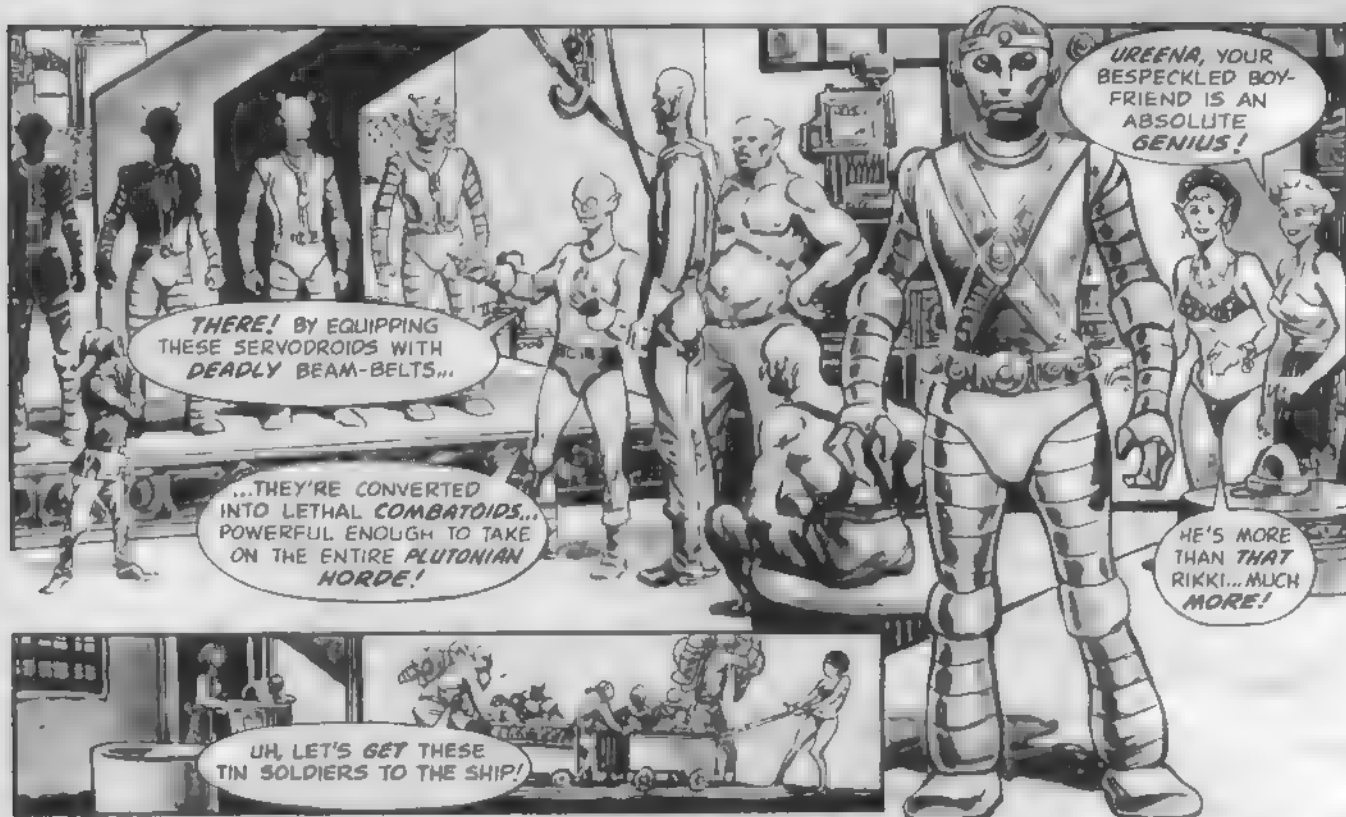


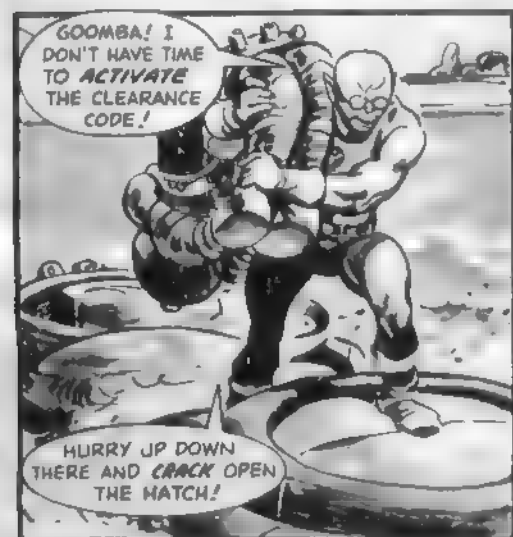
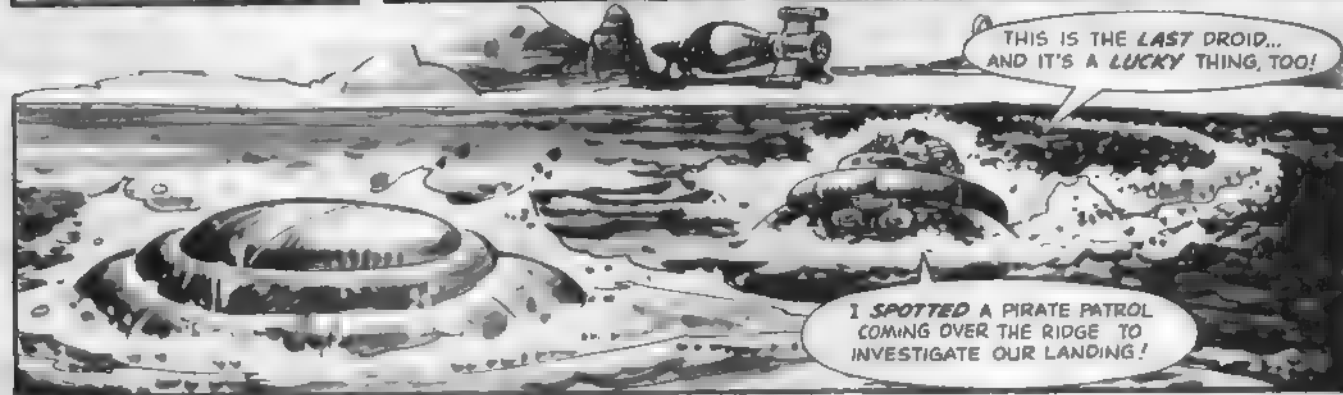
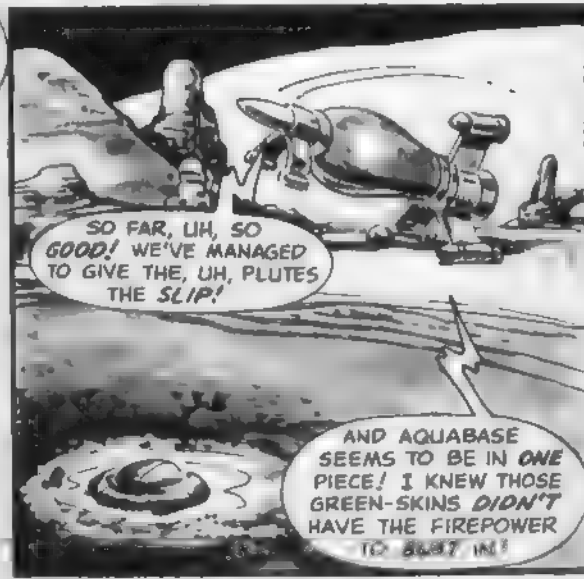
LOOK THERE, GOLITELY... AN ABANDONED FACTORY!

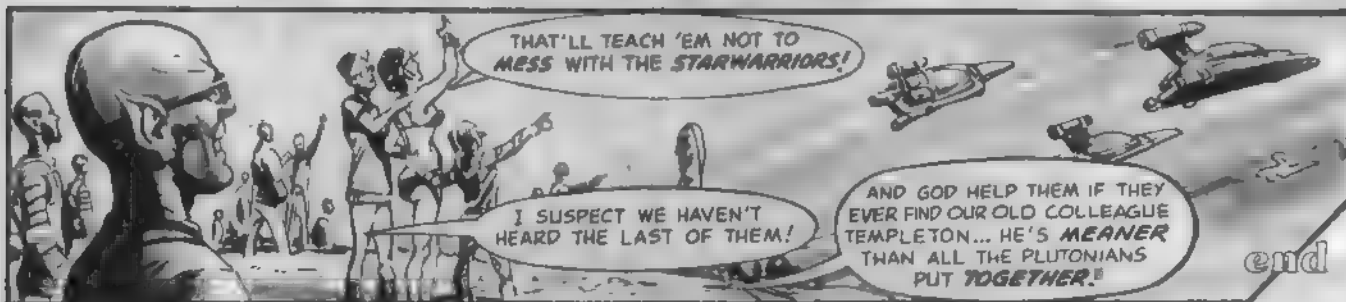
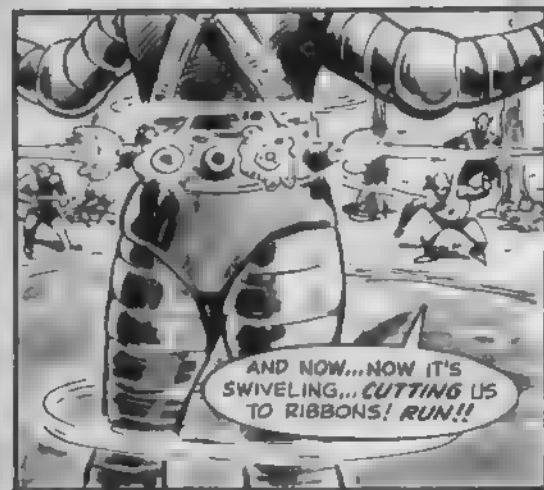
YES! VENGER PREDICTED THIS ANCIENT U-ESS CITY CALLED DEE-TROYT. IT SHOULD BE FULL OF EMPTY FACTORIES!













AND NOW,  
LAY-DEES  
AND  
GENNELL MEN.  
AN ILLUSION  
YOU WON'T  
FORGET FOR  
YEARS.

I  
HOPE.

BEJAMMERS.  
IF IT  
WEREN'T  
FOR BAD  
NEWS  
THERE'D  
BE NONE  
AT ALL.

IMBROSE

JOURNAL  
ESDAT TALKS  
BEGIN BALKS  
CARTER WALKS

YES, DEAR PATRONS  
OF PRESTIDIGITATION,  
IN A SINGLE, BLINDING  
BURST OF CLARITY, YOU  
WILL SEE THE SECRETS  
OF THE ORACLE  
DISCLOSED. **THUS**  
AND THE MAGIC  
WORDS OF...

I HOPE I  
USED ENOUGH  
GUNPOWDER  
ON THIS  
GAG.

GUN-  
POWDER???  
YOU  
IDIOT!!

FOR THE  
SAKE OF ST.  
SWITHIN! YOU  
NEVER USE  
GUNPOWDER  
IN UP CLOSE  
MAG...  
WHOOOPS!!

...ABRA-  
CADAB--!

OOPHHH!!!

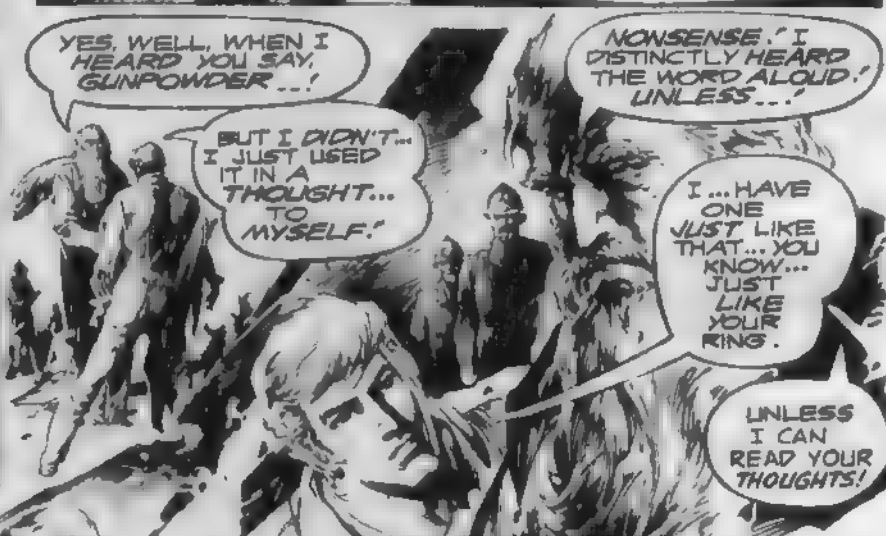
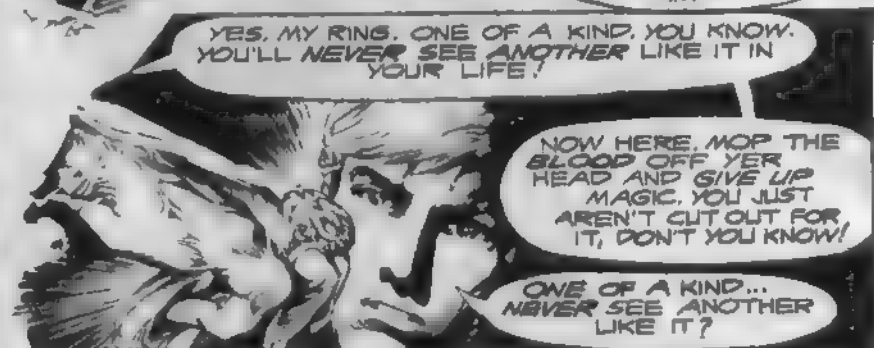
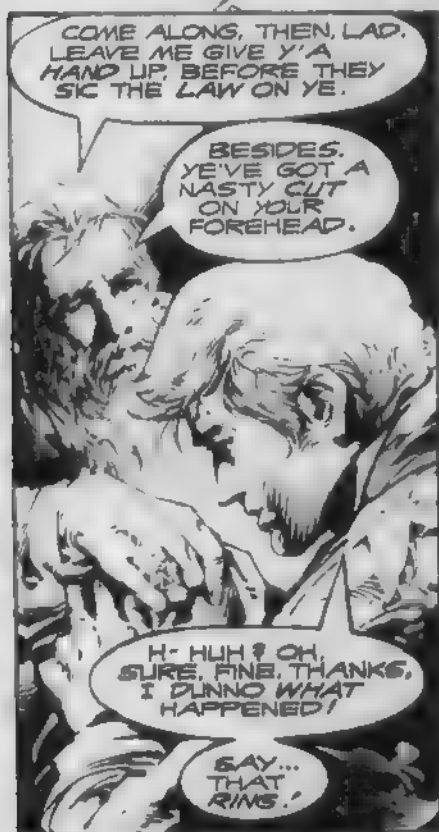
**BADDOOM**

IN A LONDON PARK, ON A LAZY SUNDAY AFTERNOON,  
OCTOBER 31, 1980, A YOUNG, WOULD-BE  
MAGICIAN'S LIFE TOOK A TURN FOR THE ...  
UNBELIEVABLE! THIS IS THE STORY OF A YOUNG WOULD-BE  
WIZARD, WHO, ONE DAY IN THE DISTANT PAST WOULD  
BECOME THE GREATEST MAGICIAN OF ALL TIME.

THIS IS THE ORIGIN OF...

# CAGIM: THE MARK OF MERLIN!

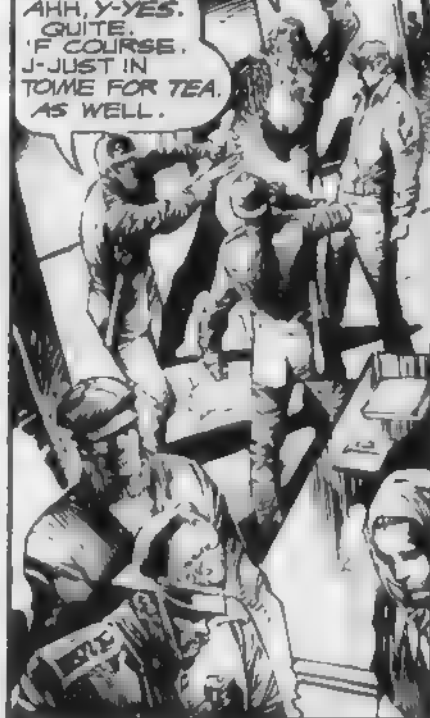
Author: BUDD LEWIS/illustrator: E.R. CRUZ





"MAGIC." NOW, YOUNG MAN, HERE WE ARE. NOW, YOU RUN ALONG AND TEND TO YOUR BUSINESS AND I'LL SEE TO MINE THENKYAW."

"AH-AHH. AHH, Y-YES. QUITE. 'F COURSE. J-JUST IN TOME FOR TEA. AS WELL."



"OIKES. PIPE THIS, WILLYER?"

"WOT'S ALL THIS, THEN? A BLEEDING 'Y'NOTIST." GIVE A LOOK TO 'IM."

"WILL THERE BE ANYTHING FOR TEA GENTLEMEN?"

"NO, I'M NOT ENGLISH."



"THAT'S LITTLE EXCUSE TO BE BARBARIC. DEAR BOY. THANK YOU OFFICER, BUT WE'VE BROUGHT OUR OWN."

"NEVER MIND THAT. I WANT TO KNOW ABOUT THIS ..."

"NO, NO, JUST A BIT OF A MAGICIAN M'SELF IS ALL THERE! THAT'S A NASTY CUT ON Y'FORE EAD, IT'LL LEAVE A SCAR!"



"WELL, MY NAME IS AMBROSE. I'M AN ORPHAN, I SUPPOSE AND I WANT TO BE A GREAT MAGICIAN. BUT THERE'S NO ONE TO TEACH ME. AND I CAN'T SEEM TO HOLD DOWN A JOB. MAKE AN AUDITION. KEEP A GIRLFRIEND. MY LIFE IS A CONSTANT STATE OF CONFLUSION. MY WATCH RUNS BACKWARDS AND NOW I'VE BEEN BLUSTED, BLOODIED AND I'M SPILLING MY GUTS TO A CRAZY OLD MAN SOMEWHERE IN A POLICE-STATION IN ENGLAND FOR CRYIN' OUT LOUD."

"GO ON. ITS ALL FITTING TOGETHER."

"THAT'S JUST IT! I CAN'T FIT ANY OF IT TOGETHER! I CAN'T GET MY LIFE TOGETHER! HELL, MAN, ITS LIKE I'M LIVING MY LIFE BACKWARDS!"

"LIKE ALL MY TOMORROWS ARE EVERYONE ELSE'S YESTERDAYS."

"I TOLD YOU EXACTLY LIKE YOUR RIMS. I'VE HAD IT ALL MY LIFE. I DON'T KNOW WHERE IT CAME FROM."

"GOOD GOD! IT CAN'T BE! OR CAN IT? CAN BE! QUICK, BOY, TELL ME ABOUT YOURSELF!"





YOU THINK I'M NUTS TOO!

NO, NO. MY DEAR BOY. I DON'T AT ALL. I BELIEVE YOU. YOU'RE TOO YOUNG AND STUPID TO LIE. TELL ME, QUICK, HOW OLD ARE YOU?

TWENTY ONE.

BIRTH DATE?



NOVEMBER 1ST... 2000.

YES... YESSS. ITS TRUE ITS REALLY TRUE. IT COULDN'T HAVE WORKED OUT BETTER HAD I PLANNED IT. HOO-RAHH.

WELL, WELL, MY LAD, THERE'S MUCH FOR YOU AND I TO TALK ABOUT. I'D SAY, I THINK I HAVE ALL THE PROOF IT WILL TAKE TO CONVINCE YOU OF WHAT I'M ABOUT TO SAY. BUT JUST TO MAKE SURE BEFORE WE GO, HAVE A LOOK AT THAT NASTY CUT ON YOUR FOREHEAD. GO ON, IT'LL PROVE IT TO YOU.

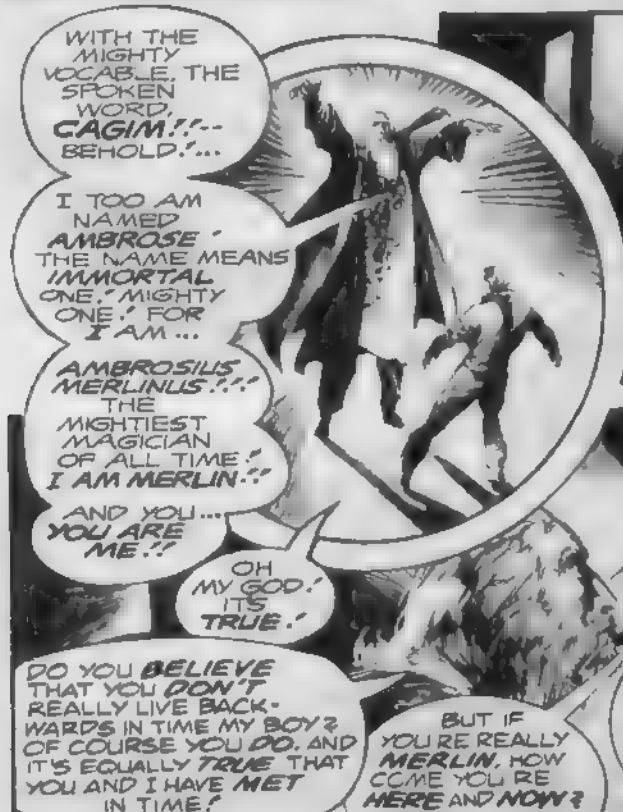
THIS IS GETTING CRAZIER AND CRAZIER. BUT I GOT NOWHERE ELSE TO TURN. I'M A SUCKER. YEECHH. THAT'S AN UGLY NICK!



W-WHY... THE MARK... ITS IDENTICAL!

THE MARK IS THE SAME. THE SIGNET ON MY RING AND YOUR MEDALLION IS THE SAME.

I TOO WAS BORN OCTOBER 31, 2000 I TOO LIVE BACKWARDS. I TOO AM A MAGICIAN. AND MY NAME...



WITH THE MIGHTY VOCABLE, THE SPOKEN WORD, CAGIM!... BEHOLD!...

I TOO AM NAMED AMBROSE. THE NAME MEANS IMMORTAL ONE. MIGHTY ONE. FOR I AM...

AMBROSILUS MERLINUS... THE MIGHTIEST MAGICIAN OF ALL TIME. I AM MERLIN.

AND YOU... YOU ARE ME.

OH MY GOD! ITS TRUE.

DO YOU BELIEVE THAT YOU DON'T REALLY LIVE BACKWARDS IN TIME MY BOY? OF COURSE YOU DO, AND IT'S EQUALLY TRUE THAT YOU AND I HAVE MET IN TIME.

BUT IF YOU'RE REALLY MERLIN, HOW COME YOU'RE HERE AND NOW?



AND TO END THE SPELL, THE WORD, MAGIC! AND POOF! NO ONE SAW US IN THAT INSTANT.

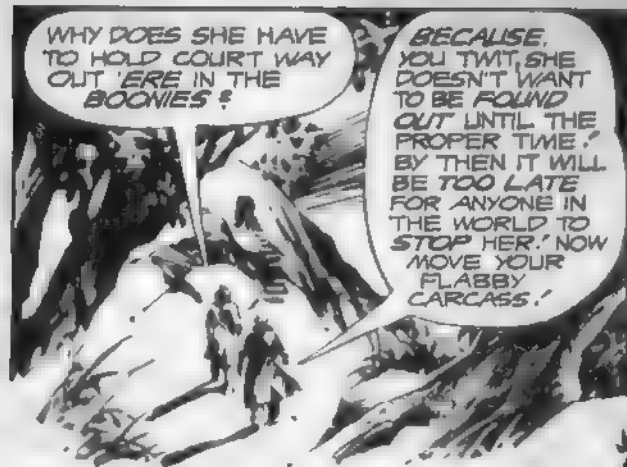
SO YOU SEE, I HAD FORGOTTEN HOW I CAME TO BE MERLIN THE MAGICIAN. HOW I LEARNED MY MAGIC. WHERE DID MIGHTY MERLIN LEARN HIS ARTS? WHY WERE ABOUT TO PROVE... HE TAUGHT HIMSELF.

ER, GENTLEMEN? TEA? CAKES?

DO YOU THINK IT'S TRUE?

OF COURSE ITS TRUE! WE'RE HERE AREN'T WE? COME ON, WE'VE GOT TO REPORT THIS TO HER HIGHNESS!

ALL IN GOOD TIME, MY BOY, ALL IN GOOD TIME. WHAT DO YOU SAY WE STOP BY THE LIBRARY AND CHECK OUT A BOOK BY AN OLD FRIEND OF MINE, TOM MALLORY? WOT? THERE'S A STEADY FELLOW.



WHY DOES SHE HAVE TO HOLD COURT WAY OUT 'ERE IN THE BOONIES?

BECAUSE, YOU TWIT, SHE DOESN'T WANT TO BE FOUND OUT UNTIL THE PROPER TIME. BY THEN IT WILL BE TOO LATE FOR ANYONE IN THE WORLD TO STOP HER. NOW MOVE YOUR FLABBY CARCASS.



BY THE POWERS OF DARKNESS AND FEAR, BY THE MIGHT OF THE DARK SPELL, BY THE EVIL ENCHANTMENT OF THE LADY OF THE LAKE, I BID ENTRANCE INTO THE REALM OF THE SORCERESS.

AYE, AND HIS LOYAL SQUIRE AS WELL!

FOR I AM CUNNING MORDRED CAPTAIN OF THE BLACK QUEEN'S LEGION.

SHUT UP, YOU MINDLESS AMOEBA.



ALL HAIL THE DARK ENCHANTRESS OF IMMORTALITY. ALL HAIL THE EVIL QUEEN OF MAGIC AND MYSTERY. ALL ...

THAT'S ENOUGH, MORDRED! WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? FEEDING YOUR LACKEY WITH 20TH CENTURY MICROWAVE PASTRIES AGAIN?

AND JUST CALL ME VIVIEN. WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER AND ALL THIS GROVELING WON'T GET ANYBODY ANYWHERE. NOW GET UP HERE AND TELL ME WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE WHEN YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BE SPYING ON MODERN POLICE METHODS.

YES, LADY VIVIEN. I HAVE ASTOUNDING NEWS THAT YOU'LL NEVER BELIEVE.



I AM LISTENING, MORDRED!

MY LADY, GRIM NEWS... MERLIN IS HERE!



MERLIN?? IT IS A LIE!

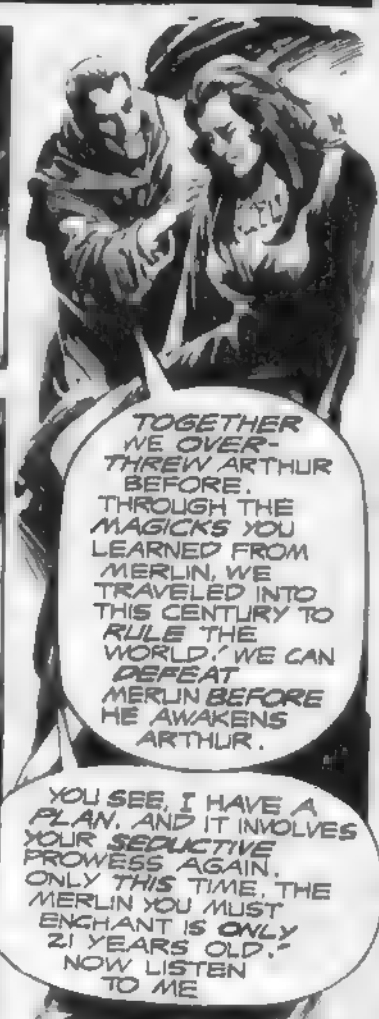


YOU LIE, MORDRED! BUT THEN, YOU HELPED CAUSE THE RUINATION OF ARTHUR AND CAMELOT WITH YOUR VIPER'S TONGUE.

MERLIN LIES WITHIN THE CRYSTAL CAVE, SLEEPING FOR ETERNITY BENEATH THE SPELL I SET UPON HIM CENTURIES AGO.


IT IS NO LIE, MY QUEEN OF EVIL. BESIDES YOU MUST REMEMBER MERLIN "LET" YOU SEDUCE HIM "LET" YOU KNOW HIS MAGICAL SECRETS, "LET" YOU SEAL HIM IN THE CAVE. AND THE SPELL WAS NEVER TO LAST AN ETERNITY.

MERLIN ONLY SLEPT UNTIL THE WORLD REACHED A HOPELESS STATE. UNTIL IT ONCE MORE NEEDED A KING ARTHUR. THE TIME IS COME. MERLIN IS AWAKE. HE IS RETURNED TO AWAKEN ARTHUR.




TOGETHER WE OVER-THREW ARTHUR BEFORE. THROUGH THE MAGICKS YOU LEARNED FROM MERLIN, WE TRAVELED INTO THIS CENTURY TO RULE THE WORLD. WE CAN DEFEAT MERLIN BEFORE HE AWAKENS ARTHUR.

YOU SEE, I HAVE A PLAN. AND IT INVOLVES YOUR SEDUCTIVE FROWESS AGAIN. ONLY THIS TIME, THE MERLIN YOU MUST ENCHANT IS ONLY 21 YEARS OLD. NOW LISTEN TO ME



OH, AMBROSE! STAGE MAGIC IS TOMFOOLERY. IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH REAL ART!


BUT IF I CAN'T HANDLE ~~SHOW~~ BIZ MAGIC, HOW CAN I EVER HOPE TO LEARN MERLIN-TYPE MAGIC? IT'S HOPELESS.



FIRST YOU HAVE TO LEARN THE WORD. THEN ALL THE REST WILL COME NATURALLY... AFTER A BIT OF TRAINING, OF COURSE! WATCH!

CAGIM?!


THAT'S THE MAGIC WORD? WEIRD.



THAT'S THE WORD, BUT IT ONLY WORKS FOR MERLIN. SO, YOU KNOW IT'LL WORK FOR YOU, AT LEAST, IN TIME.


AH, HERE WE ARE. PLEASE GO INSIDE.

WHAT IS THIS? A TREE HOUSE? IT'S NOT BIG ENOUGH TO GET BOTH OF US INTO.



MERLIN'S MYSTICAL CRYSTAL CAVE IS LARGE ENOUGH FOR EVERY SECRET KNOWN TO MANKIND! HERE IS WHERE I HAVE SLEPT BENEATH A SORCERESS' SPELL UNTIL NOT MANY DAYS AGO, WHEN THE SPELL DISSOLVED.

INCREDIBLE! W-WHY THESE DEVICES ARE FROM EVERY PERIOD OF HISTORY! WHERE DID YOU GET THEM?



THEY ARE MINE. ALL MY OWN INVENTIONS. YOU SEE, AS YOU PROGRESS BACKWARDS IN TIME THROUGH YOUR LIFE, YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SHAPING MANKIND'S FUTURE BY TAKING ON VARIOUS IDENTITIES AND INVENTING THOUSANDS OF WONDROUS THINGS. THIS WAS A DEVICE YOU WILL INVENT WHEN YOU UTILIZE THE NAME MICHELANGELO.

AND THERE ARE THINGS YOU WILL INVENT AS GALILEO AND SO FORTH AND SO ON.

THUS, WHEN I SLEPT, I CEASED LIVING BACKWARDS AND WAS SWEEPED ALONG WITH THE FLOW OF TIME INTO THE FUTURE. NOW THAT I'M AWAKE AGAIN, I NO LONGER MOVE BACKWARDS, BUT WILL CONTINUE TO LIVE INTO THE FUTURE. I DO NOT KNOW WHAT AWAITS ME THERE. BUT, NOW, MOMENTARILY WE SHARE THE SAME POINT IN TIME.

AND AT THIS POINT, I SHALL TEACH YOU THE ARTS YOU WILL CARRY WITH YOU, AND IN EXCHANGE, YOU CAN HELP ME FULFILL MY MISSION.

BUT I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW YOU CAN BE HERE IN 1980 IF YOU REALLY ARE MERLIN AND LIVED BACKWARDS.

SIMPLE. I WAS BORN IN 2000, LIVED 'TIL THE DAYS OF CAMELOT, WAS FOOL ENOUGH TO FALL IN LOVE WITH A WITCH TOLD HER MY MAGIC SECRETS AND SHE BEWITCHED ME WITH ONE OF MY OWN SPELLS AND I SLEPT.

WHAT IS THIS MISSION? WHY ARE YOU AWAKE AGAIN?

FANTASTIC!



MY BOY THE  
WORLD NEEDS  
LEADERSHIP AGAIN.  
IT NEEDS A GREAT  
LEADER WITH AN  
INFALLIBLE SENSE OF  
JUSTICE AND RIGHT.  
COME, LET ME  
SHOW YOU  
SOMETHING.



BEHOLD,  
BEFORE  
CAMELOT FELL TO THE TREACHERIES  
OF EVIL MORDRED  
ARTHUR WAS  
AIDED BY TWELVE  
OF HIS GREATEST  
KNIGHTS. EACH  
CHOSE TO FOLLOW  
ARTHUR TO THE  
ENDS OF THE  
EARTH.

ARTHUR  
SLEEPS IN  
A SECRET  
CHAMBER ON  
SECRET ISLAND,  
WAITING  
UNTIL I AWAKEN  
HIM. HIS  
BRAVE KNIGHTS  
WILL AID  
ARTHUR IN  
HIS WORKS  
AFTER I REVIVE  
THEM ALL.



AMBROSE!  
WATCH OUT!  
YAAA!

A  
DRAGON!!  
MERLIN,  
STOP HIM!



ITS GOT  
ME BOY!  
HELP  
ME!!

I'LL TRY!  
HANG ON!  
I'M GONNA  
USE THE  
WORD...!



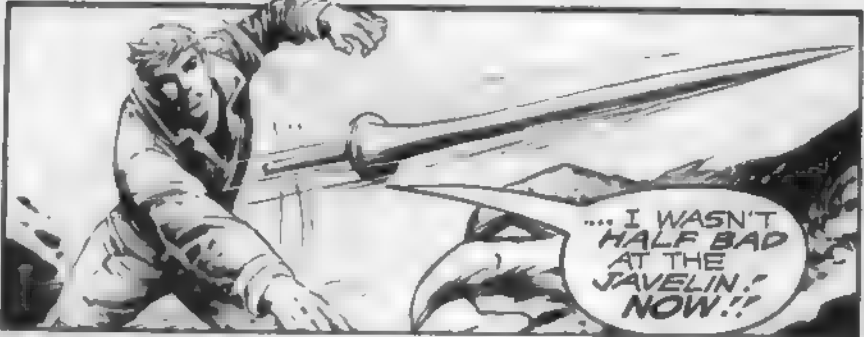
CAGIM!!



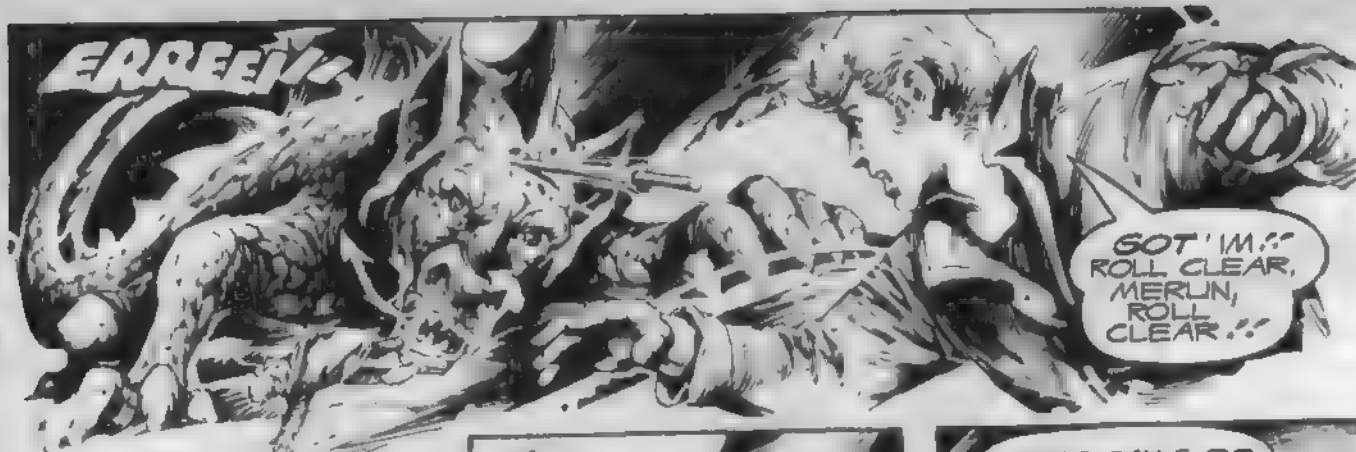
YAARRRH!!  
AMBROSE!!  
DO  
SOMETHING!!

KRUNCH

THE MAGIC  
WORD. IT  
DIDN'T WORK!  
I MAY NEVER  
BE A MAGICIAN  
BUT...



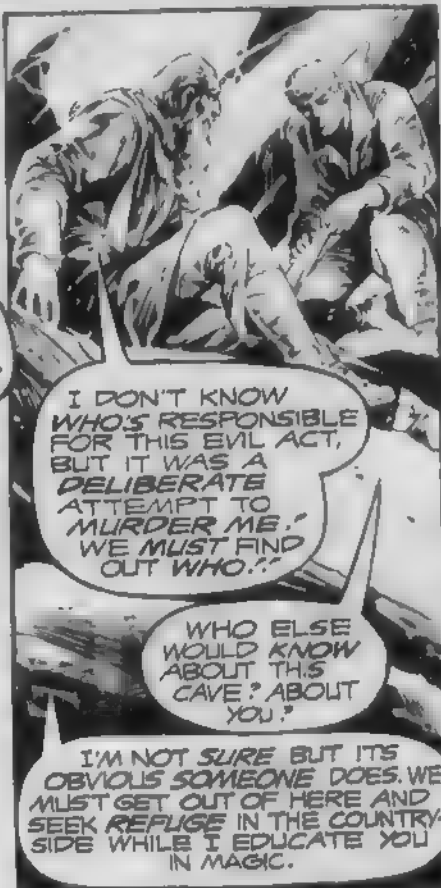
... I WASN'T  
HALF BAD  
AT THE  
JAVELIN.  
NOW!!



GOT 'IM!!  
ROLL CLEAR,  
MERLIN,  
ROLL  
CLEAR!!

WHAT IN HELL DO  
YOU KEEP A  
MONSTER LIKE  
THAT IN HERE  
FOR?

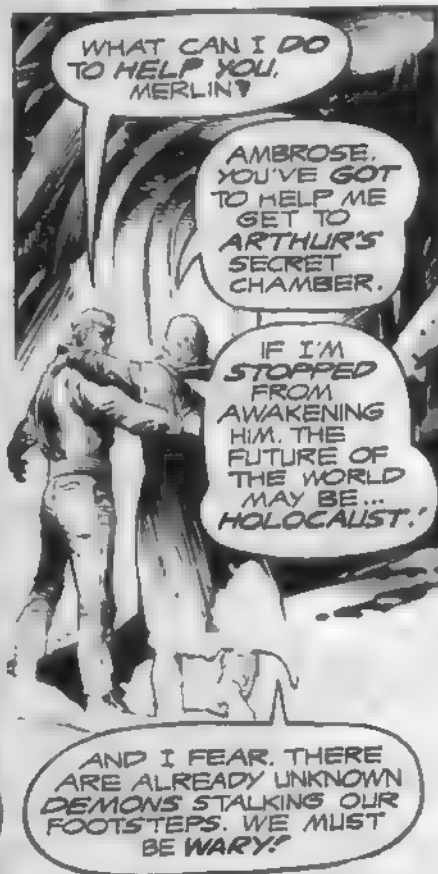
IT WAS  
STUFFED AND  
HANGING ON THE  
WALL UP UNTIL  
SOMEONE, SOME-  
HOW CAST LIFE  
BACK INTO IT. SEE?  
LOOK AT IT NOW,  
JUST A TAXIDERMIC  
SPECIMEN AGAIN.



I DON'T KNOW  
WHO'S RESPONSIBLE  
FOR THIS EVIL ACT,  
BUT IT WAS A  
DELIBERATE  
ATTEMPT TO  
MURDER ME.  
WE MUST FIND  
OUT WHO.

WHO ELSE  
WOULD KNOW  
ABOUT THIS  
CAVE? ABOUT  
YOU?

I'M NOT SURE BUT ITS  
OBVIOUS SOMEONE DOES. WE  
MUST GET OUT OF HERE AND  
SEEK REFUGE IN THE COUNTRY-  
SIDE WHILE I EDUCATE YOU  
IN MAGIC.



WHAT CAN I DO  
TO HELP YOU,  
MERLIN?

AMBROSE,  
YOU'VE GOT  
TO HELP ME  
GET TO  
ARTHUR'S  
SECRET  
CHAMBER.

IF I'M  
STOPPED  
FROM  
AWAKENING  
HIM, THE  
FUTURE OF  
THE WORLD  
MAY BE...  
HOLOCAUST.

AND I FEAR, THERE  
ARE ALREADY UNKNOWN  
DEMONS STALKING OUR  
FOOTSTEPS. WE MUST  
BE WARY?



I'M READY FOR  
ANYTHING... BUT...  
PLEASE, CAN'T YOU  
TELL ME HOW TO  
USE THE  
MAGIC WORD...?

EASY.  
SIMPLY  
BELIEVE.  
WANT, NEED  
AND BE  
MAGIC.



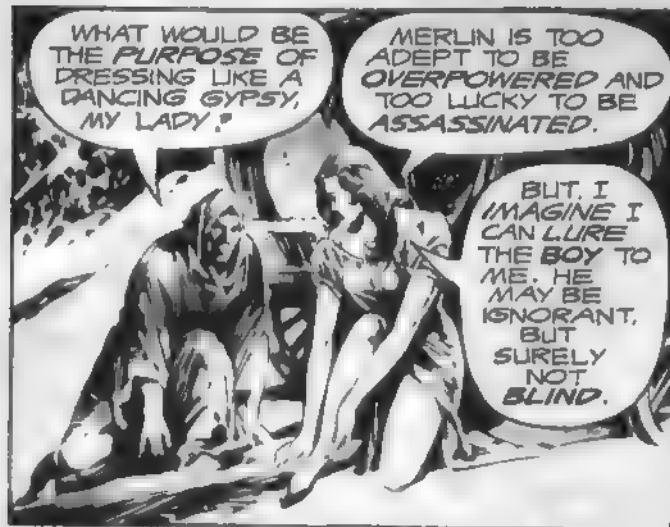
IT'LL COME  
TO YOU WHEN  
YOU REALLY  
BELIEVE YOU CAN  
CAST A SPELL.  
REMEMBER, THE  
WORD IS,  
"CAGIM." THE  
WORD TO  
END THE SPELL  
IS, "MAGIC".

WELL...  
ACTUALLY  
ITS "MAGIC"  
SPELLED  
SIDWAYS...  
SORT  
OF.

BUT WHAT  
DOES "CAGIM"  
MEAN? I'LL  
BET IT'S THE  
INITIALS OF THE  
GREATEST  
NAMES FROM  
THE PAST:  
CAMELOT-  
ARTHUR-  
IGRAINE-  
AND  
MERLIN.  
RIGHT?

YES!

FAR  
OUT!



WHAT WOULD BE THE PURPOSE OF DRESSING LIKE A DANCING GYPSY, MY LADY?

MERLIN IS TOO ADEPT TO BE OVERPOWERED AND TOO LUCKY TO BE ASSASSINATED.

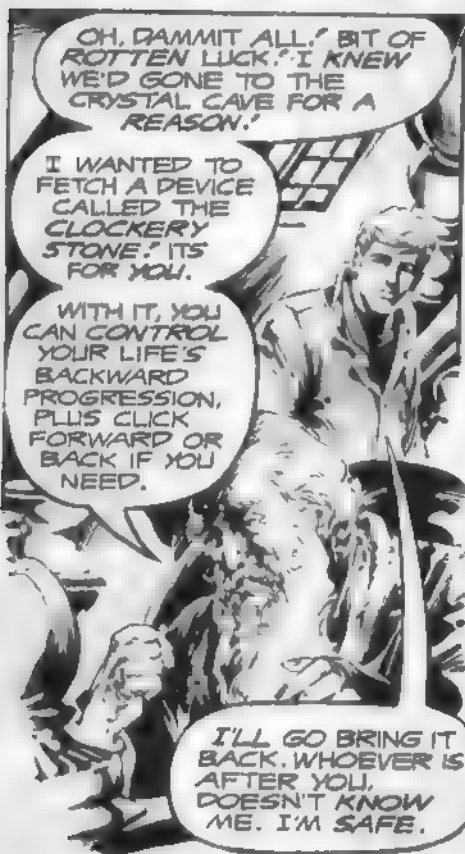
BUT, I IMAGINE I CAN LURE THE BOY TO ME. HE MAY BE IGNORANT, BUT SURELY NOT BLIND.



THIS IS MY GREATEST SECRET - THE HOUSE OF A THOUSAND WINDOWS.

HERE I CAN GO TO ANY PERIOD IN HISTORY BETWEEN 435 AD AND 2000 AD THROUGH THOSE WINDOWS. ANYWHERE IN MY... OUR... LIFE CYCLE.

COME, WE'RE SAFE INSIDE.

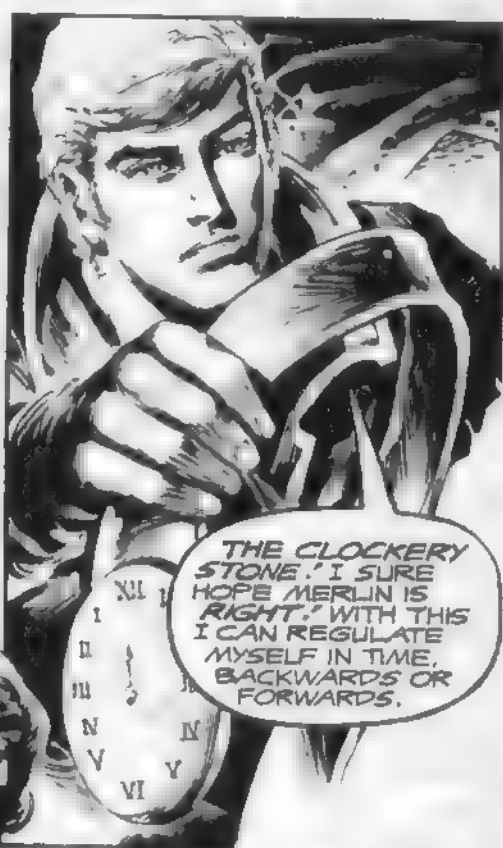


OH, DAMMIT ALL, BIT OF ROTTEN LUCK. I KNEW WE'D GONE TO THE CRYSTAL CAVE FOR A REASON.

I WANTED TO FETCH A DEVICE CALLED THE CLOCKERY STONE. ITS FOR YOU.

WITH IT, YOU CAN CONTROL YOUR LIFE'S BACKWARD PROGRESSION, PLUS CLICK FORWARD OR BACK IF YOU NEED.

I'LL GO BRING IT BACK. WHOEVER IS AFTER YOU, DOESN'T KNOW ME. I'M SAFE.



THE CLOCKERY STONE. I SURE HOPE MERLIN IS RIGHT. WITH THIS I CAN REGULATE MYSELF IN TIME, BACKWARDS OR FORWARDS.



GUESS I SHOULD GET USED TO HEARING IT. BUT I BETTER WAIT TO LET MERLIN CHECK ME OUT ON IT BEFORE I GO SOLO.

HELLO.

I AM NIMLIE, LADY OF THE MINSTRELS. DO YOU WISH TO SEE ME DANCE... JUST FOR YOU?

COME INTO MY WAGON AND YOU WILL SEE THE SPELLS I WEAVE.



W-WHO ARE YOU?





DO YOU  
LIKE MY...  
DANCE?

UH...  
(CHOKE)...  
IT'S  
V-VERY...  
ENTRANCING.

GOOD! THEN  
LET ME  
ENTRANCE  
YOU  
MORE.



NOW... LET  
ME GO EVEN  
FURTHER  
TO EN...



...SNARE  
YOU... HA!!  
NOW I  
HAVE YOU!!  
...AMBROSE.

HEY.

YOU  
TRICKED  
ME. YOU  
KNOW MY  
NAME TOO.  
WHO  
ARE YOU??

YOU WILL KNOW  
MY NAME FIFTEEN  
CENTURIES FROM  
NOW. I CAUGHT  
YOU THEN, I  
HAVE YOU  
NOW.



YES. BUT IT'S OLD  
MERLIN I WANT. HE  
HAS THE SECRET I  
DESIRE. WHERE IS  
HE?

I DON'T  
KNOW.

YOU'RE  
LYING. YOU  
CAN'T SAVE HIM.  
IF YOU DEFEAT  
ME, I'LL KILL  
YOU. AND HE  
WILL CEASE  
TO EXIST AS  
WELL.  
HA HA HA.



BUT THEN YOU  
WON'T HAVE MERLIN'S  
SECRET YOU SO  
DESIRE, WITCH.

BUT THEN AGAIN,  
I WON'T HAVE EITHER  
OF YOU AROUND TO  
SPOIL MY PLANS FOR THE  
FATE OF THIS PLANET.  
WILL I? NOW, TELL ME  
WHERE OLD  
AMBROSILUS HIDES.



GUARDS.  
GUARDS.  
THIS POOR,  
BUNGLING  
CREATURE IS  
IMPRISONED  
WITHIN MY  
FORCE SPHERE.  
TAKE THE  
SPHERE TO MY  
FORTRESS  
UNTIL I CAN  
LOCATE  
MERLIN.

AND DON'T  
WORRY, MY POOR  
AMBROSE, YOU  
CAN'T POSSIBLY  
ESCAPE FROM THE  
SPHERE. ONLY  
MAGIC AS  
POWERFUL AS  
MERLIN'S CAN  
FREE YOU. BUT  
THEN... HE ISN'T  
HERE.

YOU MISERABLE...  
WHO ARE  
YOU??

SHE IS MY  
OLD FLAME, AMBROSE.  
VIVIEN, THE  
WITCH.

SHE HAS USED  
THE MAGICKS SHE  
LEARNED FROM ME  
TO ATTEND HER  
INTO THIS  
PRESENT DAY.

SHE USES THESE  
WETTER CREATURES  
FOR HER SERVANTS.  
NOW LET US SEE  
WHAT  
HER PLANS ARE!

YOU!!

YOU OLD MEDDLER!  
I KNOW WHY YOU'RE HERE!  
TO AWAKEN ARTHUR,  
YOUR PERSONAL  
PAWN FOR POWER.

WELL I WANT HIM.  
I WILL  
AWAKEN HIM  
AND TOGETHER  
WE WILL  
ENSLAVE THE  
WORLD  
BENEATH MY  
SPELL HE  
WILL BE MY  
KING OF  
EVIL.

I CAN'T FIGHT YOUR  
GOONS, VIVIEN. YOU WANT  
THE LOCATION OF ARTHUR'S  
SECRET INTERMENT  
ISLAND! VERY WELL! FIRST,  
RELEASE THE  
BOY!

NO. HE'S RIGHT  
WHERE I WANT  
YOU.

VIVIEN, HE IS INNOCENT.  
HE KNOWS NOTHING OF  
THE BUSINESS OF  
WIZARDS AND WITCHES.  
HE'S A BUMBLING  
CHILD.

ALL RIGHT BUT FIRST  
I TAKE YOU  
PRISONER.

GUARDSMEN!  
STUFF THE  
OLD BUZZARD'S  
BEAK, TIE HIS  
HANDS TO HIS  
FEET. A  
MAGICIAN IS  
HELPLESS  
BOUND AND  
GAGGED, NO  
GESTURES,  
NO  
VOCABLES!

NO! MERLIN  
SHE'LL KILL US  
BOTH ANYWAY!  
MERLIN!  
NO!!

THE OLD DEVIL IS  
QUITE A LIAR HIMSELF.  
BUT WHEN MY SLAVES  
BEGIN SLICING HIM IN A  
THOUSAND PLACES,  
HE'LL SPILL HIS  
SECRETS TO ME.  
GUARDS, CUT HIM TO  
RIBBONS.

THEN TAKE YOUR TIME  
AND KILL THE BOY.  
SLOWLY. I'LL BE RID OF  
BOTH OF THEM AND  
ARTHUR WILL BE MINE.

UUMNNN!

MERLINNN!

VIVIEN! YOU  
CAN'T DO THIS!  
STOP IT!!

MERLIN, YOU READ  
MY THOUGHTS IN THE  
PARK, YOU CAN HEAR  
ME NOW HELP ME DO  
THIS. HELP ME. I  
WANT MAGIC. NEED  
MAGIC... I... AM...

CAGIM!!!

WHAT?!  
HE'S  
GONE!!!

ONLY A MAGICIAN  
COULD HAVE FREED  
HIM. MERLIN IS HELPLESS.  
HA! AN ACCOMPLICE!  
GUARDS, RANSACK  
EVERYTHING UNTIL YOU  
FIND THAT INEPT CLOD  
AND THE HIDDEN  
MAGICIAN WHO  
FREED HIM.



WELL, MERLIN SAID THE MAGIC WORD WOULD WORK IF I REALLY WANTED IT TO, AND IT DID!

FIND AMBROSE AND HIS MAGICIAN ACCOMPLICE. THEY MUST NOT ESCAPE.

YES, YOUR HIGHNESS. IT SHALL BE SO.

NO SENSE IN LETTING HER KNOW AMBROSE IS THE MAGICIAN. I NEED ANOTHER IDENTITY. HMM. THESE OLD WANDERING MINSTREL COSTUMES MIGHT BE JUST RIGHT.



ONCE AGAIN, HOPE I USED ENOUGH GUNPOWDER TO GET ME AIRBORNE.

HERE'S THE MAGICIAN, LADY.

GUARDS!! IT'S HIM!!



AMBROSE IS SAFELY BEYOND YOUR REACH NOW, BUT HE SENT ME BACK TO SAVE THE OLD MAN. NOW FREE MERLIN OR I BREAK YOUR LOVELY NECK.

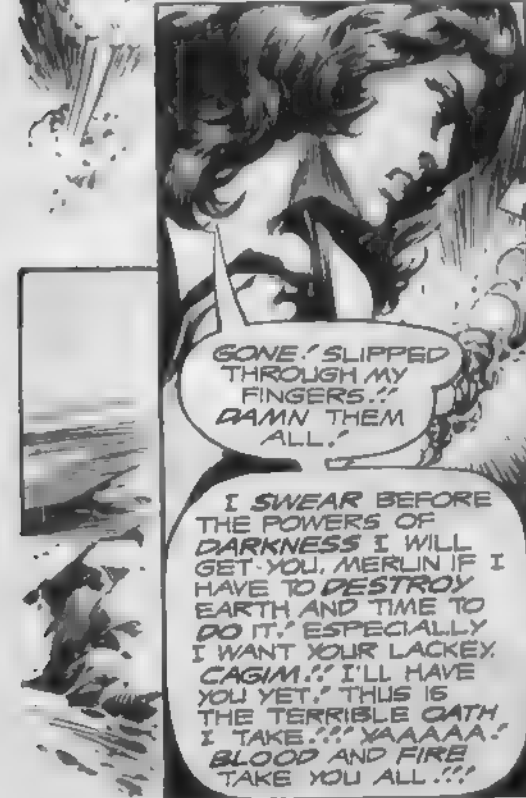
(CHOKE) D-DO AS HE SAYS. FREE MERLIN.



COME ON, GRAMPS, LET'S SPLIT.

WELL, I GUESS I WAS WRONG ABOUT THE... GUNPOWDER... MASTER CAGIM.

NOW'S THE CHANCE. KILL THEM BOTH!!



GONE. SLIPPED THROUGH MY FINGERS. DAMN THEM ALL.

I SWEAR BEFORE THE POWERS OF DARKNESS I WILL GET YOU, MERLIN IF I HAVE TO DESTROY EARTH AND TIME TO DO IT. ESPECIALLY I WANT YOUR LACKEY, CAGIM. I'LL HAVE YOU YET. THIS IS THE TERRIBLE OATH I TAKE. YAAAAA. BLOOD AND FIRE TAKE YOU ALL.



COME TRY, BOYS. CAGIM.

GET US OUT OF HERE, BOY. USE THE CLOCKERY STONE.



HIC JACET  
ARTURUS REX  
QUONDAM REX  
QUE FUTURUS

A MYSTERIOUS WIND OF MAGIC BLOWS ACROSS A ROCK STREWN SHORELINE ON AN ISLAND VEILED BY TIME.

FOR A LINGERING MOMENT IN TIME, ONE MAN'S PAST AND PRESENT SELVES PAUSE AND SHARE A COMMON PLACE UPON THAT SECRET SHORE.

THE GREAT WORK IS AT HAND, FOR ABOVE THEIR HEADS, IN A MYSTIC, TIMELESS CHAMBER, BOTH REFLECT UPON THE PROSPECT OF THEIR ULTIMATE JOINT FUTURE. AS THEY READ THE WORDS INSCRIBED THERE SO LONG, LONG AGO. HERE LIES ARTHUR, THE ONCE AND FUTURE KING. AND THUS, THE STORY BEGINS.



# HAXTUR

WARRIORS AND FRIENDS!



HIS NAME IS **HAXTUR**. HE KNOWS LITTLE MORE THAN THAT HE REMEMBERS A TIME, **EONS** AGO, WHEN HE WAS A **WARRIOR**... A **MERCENARY**, FIGHTING WARS FOR **MONEY** WHILE CLOSING HIS EYES TO **PRINCIPLES** AND **DEATHS**.

HE RECALLS **PAIN**, EXCRUCIATING PAIN... AND THE GREAT ALL ENCOMPASSING, SMOTHERING **BLACKNESS**!

AND HE RECALLS WAKING IN **THIS** WORLD... WHERE THE IMPOSSIBLE IS PROBABLE... AND LIFE IS **CHEAPER** THAN A **MERCENARY'S** DREAM!



GOOD LORD!  
A HUMAN SKULL!  
IT MUST BE A  
WARNING OF  
SOME KIND NOT  
TO ENTER THE  
FOREST!

I WONDER  
WHAT KIND OF  
DANGERS LURK  
IN THERE?



A WARRIOR!  
AND NONE TOO  
FRIENDLY FROM  
THE LOOKS  
OF HIM!



JEEZUS! LOOKS  
LIKE I'M ABOUT  
TO FIND OUT!



HE'S GOING TO  
TRY TO LASSO  
ME!





ON YOUR FEET, BEYGHEY! THE SPY IS ESCAPING... WITH YOUR WEAPON!

...BECAUSE I'M GETTING THE HELL OUT OF HERE.

COME! LET US SEPARATE AND TRY TO FORCE HIM TOWARDS THE GORGE! HE'LL BE TRAPPED AMIDST ITS SHEER ROCK CLIFF!

NOW WHAT DO I DO? THIS IS *THEIR* LAND! THEY CAN CORNER ME AND KILL ME ANYTIME THEY WANT!

LET'S SEE YOU UNHORSE ME AS EASILY AS YOU DID BEYGHEY!

AH HA! THERE YOU ARE, SPY!

THE OLD WARRIOR'S COMING FOR ME! MY HIDE IS FRIED UNLESS I TIME THIS PRECISELY!

GAAAA! THE LANCE... *SHATTERED!* HE'LL BE ON ME BEFORE I CAN DRAW MY SWORD!

*SNAP!*







BE GRATEFUL  
THAT I'M TAKING ONLY  
YOUR HORSE AND NOT  
YOUR LIFE!



IF YOUR PARTNER'S  
SMART... OR LUCKY... HE'LL  
STAY OUT OF MY WAY, TOO,  
AND I WON'T BE FORCED  
TO KILL HIM!



LET ME LEAVE  
YOU WITH ONE  
THOUGHT, OLD MAN!  
YOU TREATED ME  
AS YOUR ENEMY  
AND THAT IN TURN  
IS HOW I AM  
TREATING YOU!

WE COULD HAVE BEEN  
FRIENDS AND MAINTAINED  
OUR DIGNITY AS WELL AS  
BENEFITED FROM EACH  
OTHER'S SKILLS AND  
EXPERIENCES.



THERE'S A WORLD  
FULL OF PEOPLE OUT  
THERE, OLD MAN! YOU  
CAN'T SPEND YOUR  
LIFE FIGHTING AND  
FEARING THEM  
ALL!

THINK ABOUT IT! IT'LL  
MAKE YOUR LIFE A WHOLE  
LOT SIMPLER!

TO BE CONTINUED!

# NEW WARRIORS BATTLE JACKET

FOR EXCITING ADVENTURES FROM THE DISCO  
TO THE OUTER LIMITS OF SPACE!



**WARRIOR'S BATTLE JACKET** Super deluxe space jacket of some of your favorite T.V. characters in a ruggedly constructed light olive brown denim. Its unique styling and its 100% cotton denim durability make this the perfect family jacket for anywhere wear. Whether it's from the baseball game to the disco, or from the backyard to your own space fantasy, this jacket will get you there warmly and in style! Machine washable and dryable, comes with special patch, emblem, 2 insignia pins, care and handling information and

four unique clasps (3 on sizes 4-6X) to complement that unique look of your favorite television heroes!

- A. Children's sizes 4, 5, 6 and 8X \_\_\_\_\_ #26199/\$24.95
- B. Children's sizes 7, 8, 10, 12 and 14 \_\_\_\_\_ #26200A/\$29.95
- Children's sizes 16, 18 and 20 \_\_\_\_\_ #26200B/\$34.95
- C. Women's sizes small, medium and large \_\_\_\_\_ #26201/\$34.95
- D. Men's sizes small, medium, large and extra large \_\_\_\_\_ #26202/\$39.95

To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM.

# STAR WARS

# ALL THING ELECTRONIC COMPUTER AND RADIO CONTROLLED SAND CRAWLER

## STAR WARS ELECTRONIC ACTION BATTLE COMPUTER

**STAR WARS ELECTRONIC BATTLE COMMAND** An exciting new intergalactic electronic combat game which allows you to simulate the battle actions from Star Wars. From the simple to the complex, from one to three players, this new electronic game allows for any level of play! Simulate interstellar dogfights, simulate all the elements of hyperspace action such as the landing on Nagga, being trapped in a black hole and having your force units drained. Then contend with the hidden wrinkles of hyperspace that can bounce you into other sectors of the universe! For hours of combat thrills play against your friends or the machine itself! Uses 6 AA batteries or a special adapter not included!



**NEW!**

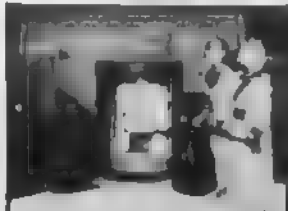
## RADIO CONTROLLED SAND CRAWLER



Use the radio control box to help Jawa escape Stormtroopers



Set up Jawa and R5-D4 at the "control" panels



Elevator lifts R2-D2 and other STAR WARS figures into Sand Crawler



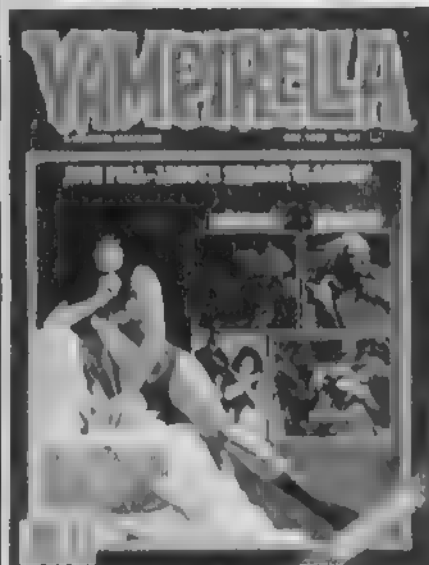
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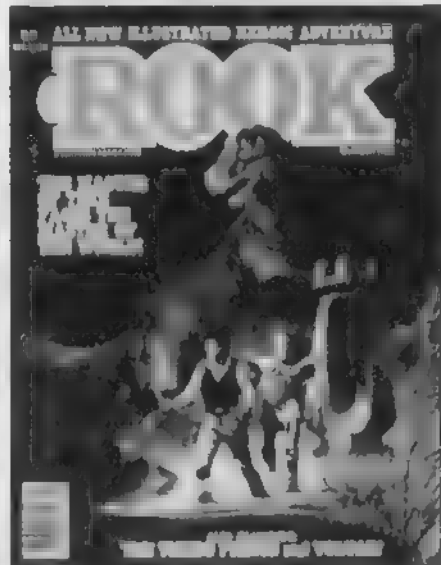
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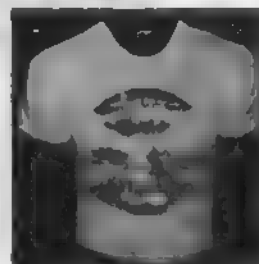
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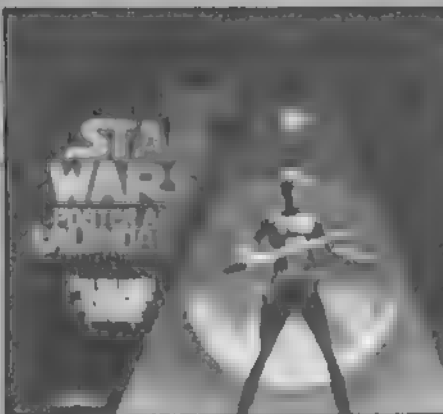
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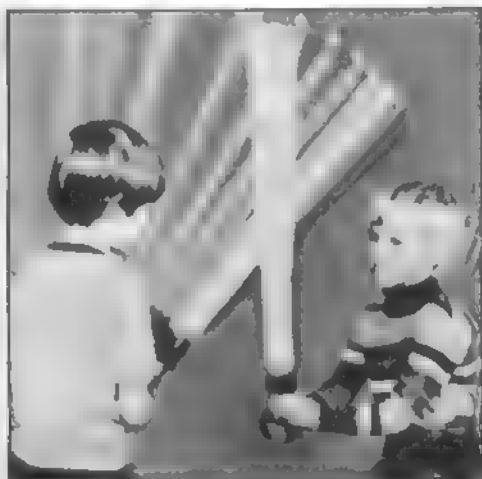
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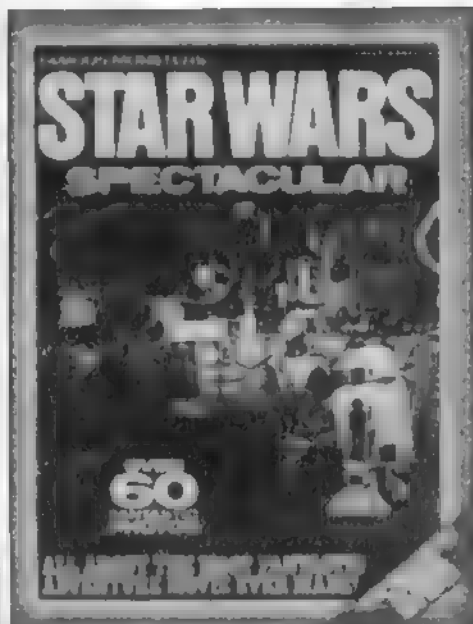
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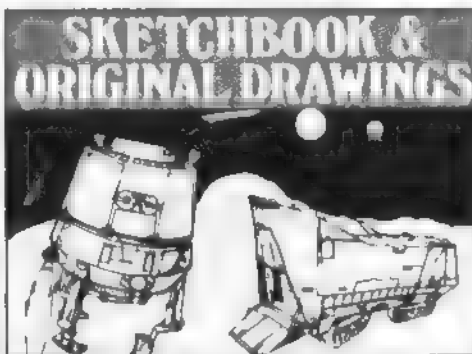
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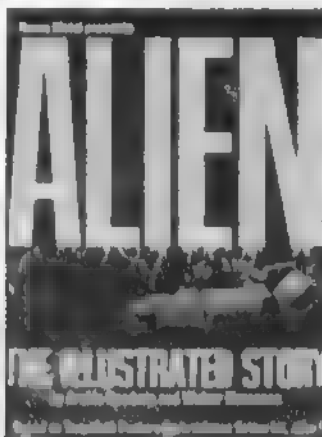
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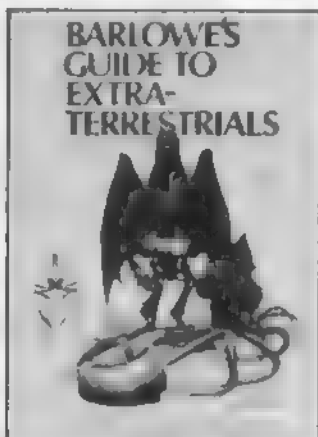
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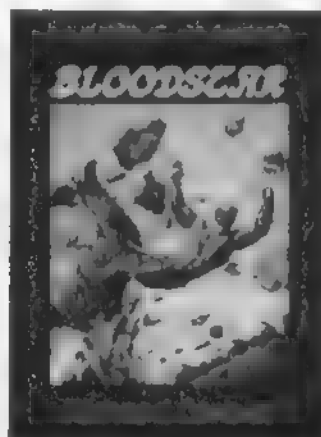
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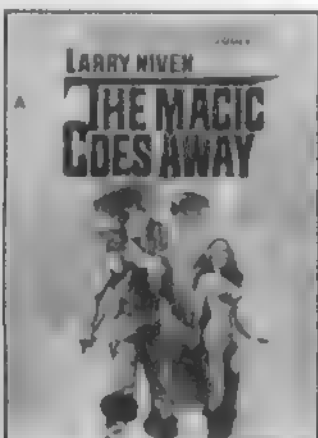
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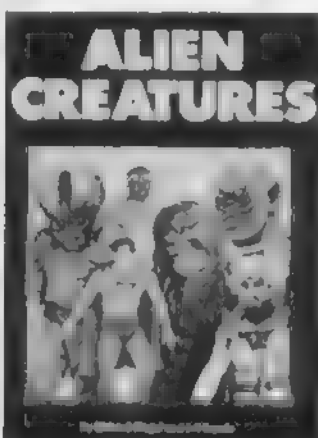
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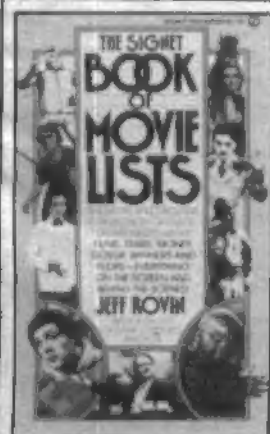
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# THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK



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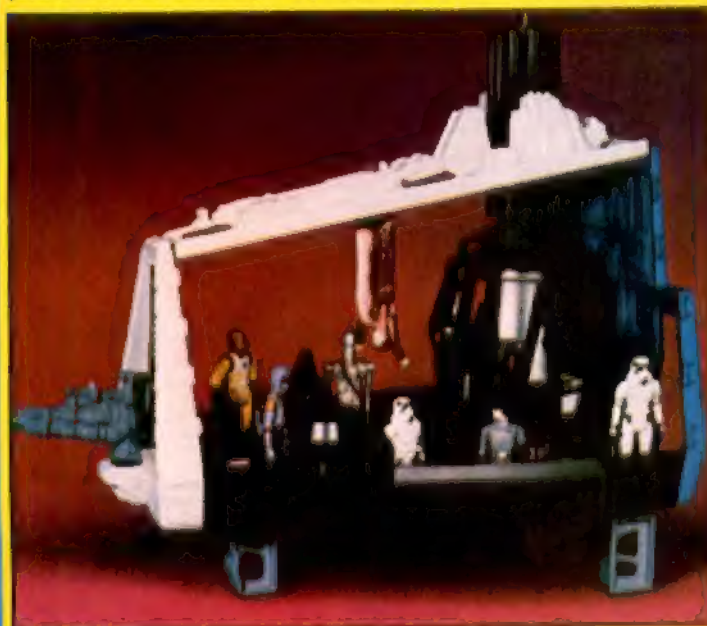
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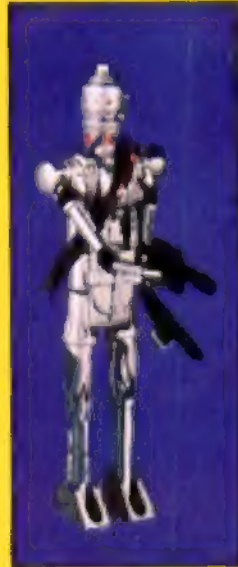
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